

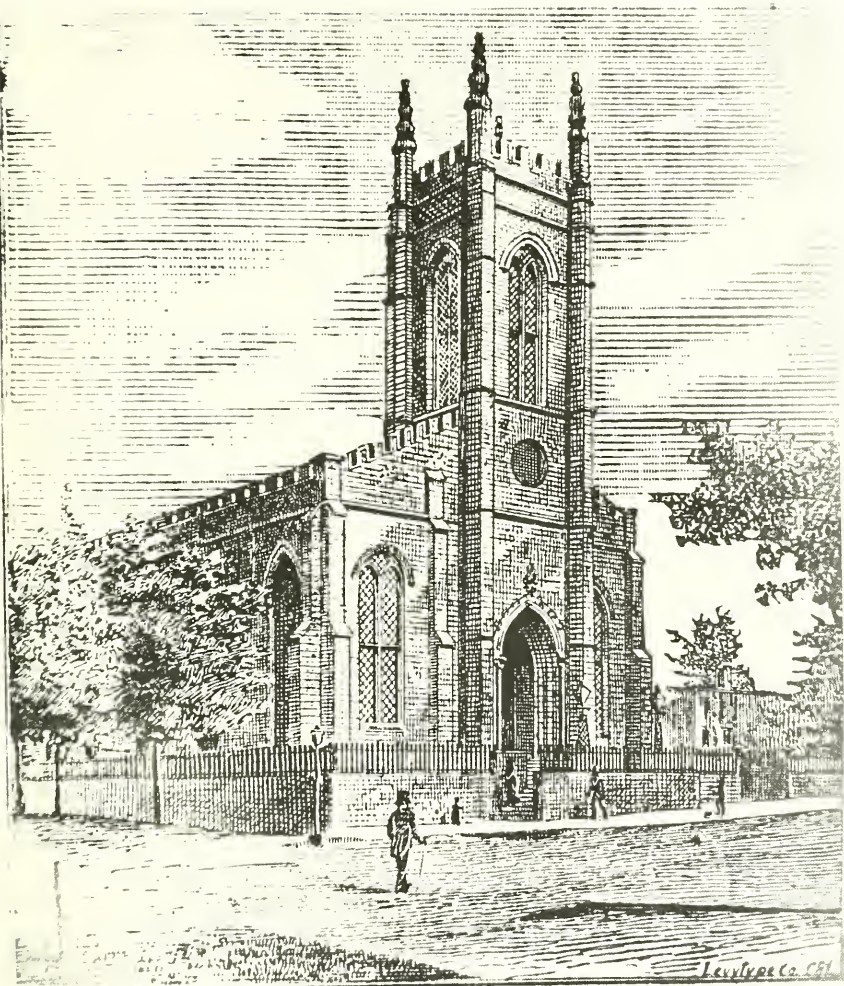
HISTORY OF ST. JAMES PARISH

1729 - 1979

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St. James' Episcopal Church.

(Source: *The Wilmington Messenger*, 1888.)

HISTORY OF ST. JAMES PARISH, 1729-1979

Compiled and Written
by
Leora Hiatt McEachern, 1982

Assisted by
Bill Reaves, 1985

Wilmington, N.C.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I acknowledge with appreciation and gratitude the assistance of Dr. Alan Watson whose wise counsel and patient guidance facilitated the completion of this task.

I am grateful to all those who assisted me in compiling this work, especially to the Rev. Robert D. Cook, the Rev. Mortimer W. Glover, Mary Louise Jackson, Mary Bason Broadfoot, Josephine Metts Hunt, Bill Reaves and the Diocesan House staff.

For the laborious task of reading the manuscript my thanks to Frances Dunn Penton, Emsley Laney, Allan Strange, Walker Taylor III, Peter B. Ruffin and my patient husband, Edward M. McEachern.

This could not have been published without the enthusiastic cooperation of Lula W. Matthews.

Leora Hiatt McEachern
Wilmington, NC
August, 1982

Note: "Billie" McEachern died on November 17, 1982 at the New Hanover Memorial Hospital following a short illness. This work was the last of voluminous amounts of research she had accomplished in the interpretation of the history of southeastern North Carolina, especially the Cape Fear region. She worked long hours with great patience as archivist of St. James Church in the compilation of the long history of this sacred house of worship.

Because of my love of "Billie" as a friend and fellow historian, it was with great pleasure, but with humbleness, that I could assist in bringing this fine work to publication.

Bill Reaves
Wilmington, NC
May, 1985

Copies of the original manuscript for *History of St. James Parish, 1729-1979* as written by Leora Hiatt McEachern can be found in the St. James Church Archives and in the North Carolina Room, New Hanover County Library, Wilmington, NC.

ABBREVIATIONS

Archives: Records in the Archives of St. James Church, Wilmington, NC.

CR: William L. Saunders (ed.), *The Colonial Records of North Carolina* (Raleigh: State of North Carolina, 10 volumes, 1886-1890).

Daily Journal: *Wilmington Daily Journal*, Wilmington, NC.

DB: New Hanover County Deed Book, Register of Deeds Office, New Hanover County Courthouse, Wilmington, NC.

Diocesan Journal: *Journal of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of North Carolina or Journal of the Annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of East Carolina*; copies in The Diocesan House.

Drane: *Sketch of St. James Parish, Wilmington, N.C. From the "Historical Notices" of the Rev. R. B. Drane, D. D., Enlarged and Brought Down to the Present Time by a Member of the Vestry* (New York: E. J. Hale & Son, 1874).

Grapevine: St. James Parish newsletter mailed to communicants.

Journal: Journal of the Ladies Working Society in the Archives, St. James Church, Wilmington, North Carolina.

Lee: Lawrence Lee, *The Lower Cape Fear in Colonial Days* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1965).

Messenger: *Wilmington Messenger*, Wilmington, NC.

S. P. G.: The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts.

Sprunt: James Sprunt, *Chronicles of the Cape Fear River* (Raleigh: Edwards & Broughton, 1914).

SR: Walter Clark (ed.), *The State Records of North Carolina* Winston and Goldsboro: State of North Carolina, 16 volumes, numbered XI-XXVI, 1895-1907).

Star: *Morning Star*, Wilmington, North Carolina.

Vestry: Minutes of the Vestry of St. James Parish in the Archives of St. James Church, Wilmington, NC.

Weis: The Reverend Frederick Lewis Weis (ed.), *The Colonial Clergy of Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina* (Boston: n.p. 1955-reprinted Baltimore, 1976).

CHAPTER 1

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The establishment of St. James Parish, and the subsequent construction of the first St. James Church, had its beginning in the General Assembly of the colony of Carolina. In 1701, the Assembly divided the Province into parishes and provided for the support of the clergy of the Church of England.¹ At this time, the Cape Fear area was slow in its development.

It was not until November, 1729, that the Assembly established St. James Parish: "From the Haul Over between Little and New River Inlett and the Southernmost Boundary of the Province shall be and is hereby appointed a Separate and District parish by the name of St. James. . . ." The appointed vestrymen were Colonel Maurice Moore, Samuel Swann, Joseph Waters, Cornelius Harnett, Roger Moore, Nathaniel Moore, Edward Hyrne, John Porter, John Grange, John Baptista Ashe, John Swann and Richard Nixon.²

Eleven years later (1741), the parish was divided by the General Assembly with St. James on the east side and St. Philip's on the west side of the Cape Fear River.³

The erection of a parish church was initiated on August 21, 1740, when the Assembly enacted legislation to require the erection of a parish church in Wilmington, which had recently been incorporated.⁴

Earlier, William Flavell, a merchant of Newton (later Wilmington), in his will (December 18, 1737) left 200 pounds towards building an "English Church" in Newton. He also directed that his pew in the "English Church in Charles Town in South Carolina" be sold and the money used to buy "Communion plate" for the church in Newton. The will was probated March, 1738/39.⁵

Many years passed before the church building was completed. On September 25, 1751, to complete the church, the General Assembly levied an annual tax of one shilling and four pence on all taxes of the parish for three years. At the same time they allowed private subscribers to build pews in proportion to the size of their subscriptions, the pews to be their personal property with right of inheritance. Thirty feet of Market Street was allowed for the church building, as the original lot of an half acre, given by Michael Higgins, was too small. The appointed commissioners to complete the church were Samuel Swann, Joseph Blake, William Faris, John Sampson, Lewis deRosset and

John Ashe, Esquires. The courthouse was to be continued as a place of worship until the church was completed.⁶

It was reported in November, 1753, that the walls of the church were finished and the building was ready for the roof.⁷

William Faris, in his will, probated February, 1757, directed that after legacies and debts were paid, the remainder of his estate was to be used to help finish the Wilmington church.⁸ On May 26th, of the same year, the General Assembly enacted a bill for finishing the church in Wilmington.⁹

A lottery for raising money to finish St. James, in Wilmington, and St. Philip's, in Brunswick, was authorized by the Assembly in May, 1759. It was to be held at the courthouse in November of that year. Jehu Davis, Marmaduke Jones, Alexander Duncan and John Paine, or any three of them, were to serve as managers of the lottery. It was also decided at this time that the proceeds derived from the sale of the effects of the Spanish privateer "Fortuna," that had blown up at Brunswick in 1748 were to be divided between the two churches for finishing the buildings.¹⁰



"Ecce Homo" (Behold the Man) removed from wrecked Spanish ship in 1748. (Courtesy of New Hanover County Public Library.)

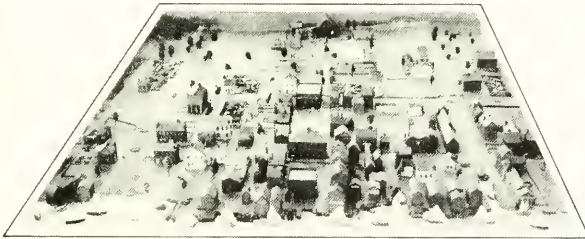
Over six years later, on July 10, 1765, Cornelius Harnett, John DuBois and George Wakeley, commissioners, asked all who had not paid their subscriptions to St. James to do so immediately as workmen were to be employed to finish the church. They asked that two-thirds of the money be paid before July 15 to Mr. Harnett or Frederick Gregg.¹¹

The money was forthcoming as in September, 1765, an agreement was signed between John DuBois, on behalf of the vestry, and Ebenezer Bunting, carpenter, to "raise, shingle, finish and complete" the roof by March 3, 1766.¹²

In his will, proved on May 18, 1768, Alexander Duncan left 400 pounds for finishing, or if finished, toward adorning the Wilmington church.¹³

As John Wakeley and John DuBois, Esquires, had died, the General Assembly in 1770 appointed Lewis deRosset and Frederick Gregg, Esquires, in their place as commissioners to finish the church.¹⁴ Later in that year (1770) the church was completed.¹⁵

Church records from December, 1775, until after the American Revolution cannot be found. They may have been removed by the rector serving the church during these troublesome times, destroyed during the war, or hidden at some unknown place and never recovered. Wilmington was occupied by British forces from January 29th through November, 1781.

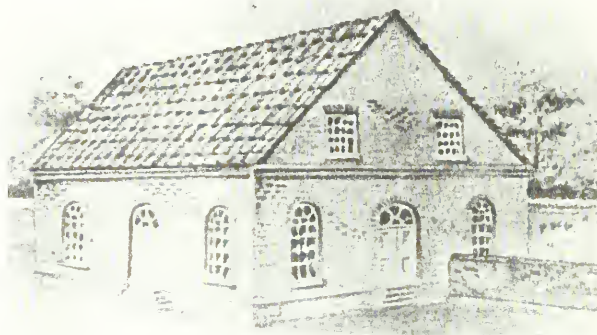


Colonial Town of Wilmington (1771). Model constructed by Miss Elizabeth McKoy. (Courtesy of Wm. M. Reaves Collection.)

During the occupation, the enclosure of the church graveyard was removed and burned. The church was stripped of its pews and converted into a hospital, a blockhouse, and then a riding school for Tarleton's Dragoons.¹⁶ By 1795, the church had been reorganized and necessary repairs had been made to the church building.

The church was described as a large square building, with neither steeple nor belfry and it had three entrances. The one in front faced the river; one opened on Market Street; and the other opened into the graveyard. The aisles were broad and paved with

large square bricks. Many of the pews were of the old English style, being what were called double pews, and would seat a large family, though some would have to sit with their backs to the chancel. There was a high reading desk and a pulpit still higher, each with red velvet cushions. Above the pulpit was a sounding board. The plain communion table was made of mahogany.¹⁷



St. James Church (Sketch)

Conjectural drawing of the first St. James Church. (St. James Church Program, 3/28/82; courtesy of New Hanover County Public Library.)

The first extant vestry minutes book starts on March 13, 1812. It was at this time that the vestry ordered that the four front pews in the south gallery and the two front pews in the north gallery, beginning from the west gallery, were to be reserved for the use of the "singers." The pulpit was to be raised two feet and benches were to be erected on each side of the church for blacks. The last row of pews on the north and south sides were to be reserved for strangers with pews added under the stairs for them also.¹⁸

About a month later, Abijah Hanson, the church sexton, was instructed to put coping on all the pews "below" to conform with those in the galleries.¹⁹ The church was heated with a wood stove. In December, 1819, a new stove was shipped from Philadelphia on a vessel named "George Watson." A cord of wood for the stove in October, 1820, was purchased for \$2.50.²⁰

At a parish meeting on October 30, 1837, it was decided that the need had become pressing for an entirely new church building because of the delapidated state of the old 1770 building.

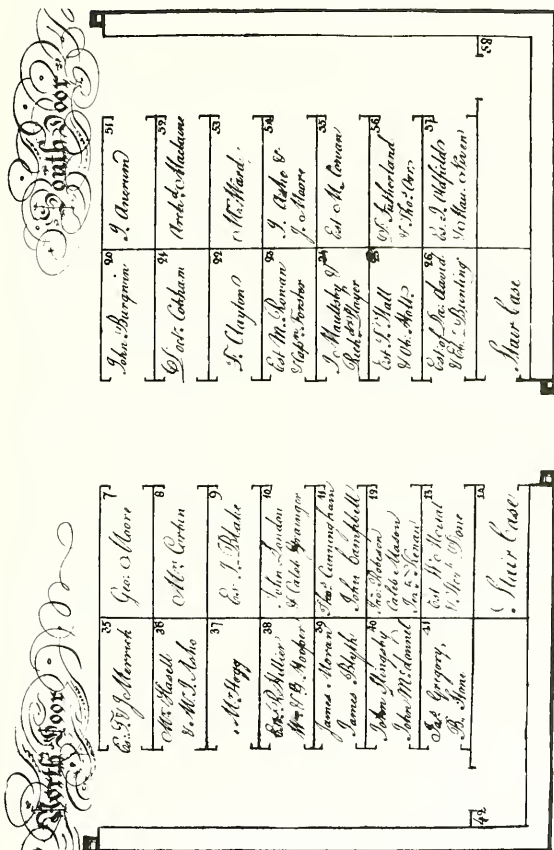
PLAN OF THE GALLERY

63 Estate A. Duncan	60 J. Walker J. C. C. C.	61 J. M. Mayer W. J. Keat	62 Estate of Mrs. J. A. Mitten and M. L. Lawrence
64 James O. Marshall Thomas Henderson	65 Est. Emily J. Pope John Howell	66 R. R. Rignion Est. M. Manning	67 Edward Hall and Estate John Springs
68 Fair Case	69 Est. A. C. Pope	70 Fair Case	71 Fair Case

Floor plan of first
St. James Church.
(Courtesy of St.
James Church
Archives.)

The
Inside Plan of Wilmington
Church

37	A. Knight C. Mr. Boulodge	30	John Dyer	14	Mr. Frangos	40	
28	M. & Moore (and R. & Stone)	31	Mr. Johnson	15	Mr. Blackmore	41	
29	Mr. Murray	32	Mr. Dyer	16	John Dyer	42	
30	So. W. de Robt	33	Mr. Dyer	17	Mrs. de Bois	43	
31	Minister	34	Mr. Johnson	18	James Mathew	44	
32	Mr. Johnson	35	Mr. Dyer	19	John Sampson	45	
33	Mr. Johnson	36	Mr. Dyer	20	Est. J. de Spawen	46	
34	Mr. Johnson	37	Mr. Dyer	21	Est. M. Jones	47	
35	Mr. Johnson	38	Mr. Dyer	22	Est. M. Jones	48	
36	Mr. Johnson	39	Mr. Dyer	23	Est. M. Jones	49	
37	Mr. Johnson	40	Mr. Dyer	24	Est. M. Jones	50	
38	Mr. Johnson	41	Mr. Dyer	25	Est. M. Jones	51	
39	Mr. Johnson	42	Mr. Dyer	26	Est. M. Jones	52	
40	Mr. Johnson	43	Mr. Dyer	27	Est. M. Jones	53	
41	Mr. Johnson	44	Mr. Dyer	28	Est. M. Jones	54	
42	Mr. Johnson	45	Mr. Dyer	29	Est. M. Jones	55	
43	Mr. Johnson	46	Mr. Dyer	30	Est. M. Jones	56	
44	Mr. Johnson	47	Mr. Dyer	31	Est. M. Jones	57	
45	Mr. Johnson	48	Mr. Dyer	32	Est. M. Jones	58	
46	Mr. Johnson	49	Mr. Dyer	33	Est. M. Jones	59	
47	Mr. Johnson	50	Mr. Dyer	34	Est. M. Jones	60	
48	Mr. Johnson	51	Mr. Dyer	35	Est. M. Jones	61	
49	Mr. Johnson	52	Mr. Dyer	36	Est. M. Jones	62	
50	Mr. Johnson	53	Mr. Dyer	37	Est. M. Jones	63	
51	Mr. Johnson	54	Mr. Dyer	38	Est. M. Jones	64	
52	Mr. Johnson	55	Mr. Dyer	39	Est. M. Jones	65	
53	Mr. Johnson	56	Mr. Dyer	40	Est. M. Jones	66	
54	Mr. Johnson	57	Mr. Dyer	41	Est. M. Jones	67	
55	Mr. Johnson	58	Mr. Dyer	42	Est. M. Jones	68	
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66	Mr. Johnson	69	Mr. Dyer	53	Est. M. Jones	79	
67	Mr. Johnson	70	Mr. Dyer	54	Est. M. Jones	80	
68	Mr. Johnson	71	Mr. Dyer	55	Est. M. Jones	81	
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86	Mr. Johnson	89	Mr. Dyer	73	Est. M. Jones	99	
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172	Mr. Johnson	175	Mr. Dyer	159	Est. M. Jones	185	
173	Mr. Johnson	176	Mr. Dyer	160	Est. M. Jones	186	
174	Mr. Johnson	177	Mr. Dyer	161	Est. M. Jones	187	
175	Mr. Johnson	178	Mr. Dyer	162	Est. M. Jones	188	
176	Mr. Johnson	179	Mr. Dyer	163	Est. M. Jones	189	
177	Mr. Johnson	180	Mr. Dyer	164	Est. M. Jones	190	
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206	Mr. Johnson	209	Mr. Dyer	193	Est. M. Jones	219	
207	Mr. Johnson	210	Mr. Dyer	194	Est. M. Jones	220	
208	Mr. Johnson	211	Mr. Dyer	195	Est. M. Jones	221	



A visitor in April, 1837, wrote: "The place (for it does not deserve the name of church) . . . is an old brick building resembling a dutch barn . . . Yet, after I got in and heard the organ with its deep tones in a chant with which they open the Church here, I forgot the building and all in it." On January 28, 1839, the vestry resolved to take immediate measures to erect a new church and appointed William C. Lord and Thomas H. Wright to the building committee.²¹

A plan for a new church, designed by T. U. Walter, architect of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was accepted on February 7, 1839. Five dollars a day was to be paid the superintending architect, John S. Norris, of New York. It was the opinion of the vestry at the time that a building of the size and plan drafted by Mr. Walter, without the side galleries, could be erected for \$15,500. The Ladies Working Society granted the use of Society Hall for religious services until the new church was completed.²²

The last service held in the old church building was on March 24, 1839. The next day, workmen began tearing down the old structure and it was planned to use some of the old materials, including the brick, in the new structure.²³

The cornerstone of the new church building was laid, with Rev. Drane officiating, on April 3, 1839. John C. Wood was the principal mason and C. H. Dahl was the carpenter. The lot on which the new church was constructed was purchased from A. J. deRosset for \$1,000.00. The deRosset family had owned it since September, 1760.²⁴

In May, 1839, during the General Convention, Bishop Levi Sillman Ives, consecrated in 1831, commented: "this congregation (St. James) are making a praiseworthy effort to erect a neat and commodious Gothic Church edifice in place of the inconvenient and much decayed building in which they have hitherto worshipped."²⁵ Bishop Ives consecrated the new church on March 29, 1840.²⁶



St. James Episcopal Church and the Burgwin-Wright House, intersection of Third and Market Streets, Wilmington, N.C. (1855). (From Ballou's Pictorial, Feb. 24, 1855; courtesy of New Hanover County Public Library.)

The years of the War Between The States brought a difficult and dramatic period to St. James Church. In July, 1861, A. J. deRosset was elected as an alternate delegate from the Diocese of North Carolina to a meeting of the southern dioceses at Columbia, SC. The meeting was called to form a constitution for the Episcopal Church in the Confederate States of America.²⁷

During the first battle of Fort Fisher in December, 1864, the thunder of the guns was heard irregularly during Christmas services at St. James until the Litany was begun, then the responses of the congregation and the roar of guns became united. "From battle and murder and from sudden death," read the minister. "Good Lord, deliver us," prayed the congregation and simultaneously "boom, boom, boom," answered the guns.²⁸ On January 15, 1865, Fort Fisher was surrendered to the Union forces.

Bishop Atkinson, on January 27, 1865, authorized "any clergyman within the enemy lines while under the constraint of the enemy, to omit the prayer for the President and Congress of the Confederate States."²⁹ On February 22, 1865, Wilmington was captured and occupied by the Union forces.

An order was issued on February 26, 1865, as follows: "Provost Marshal's Office, Lt. J. C. Taggart will procure the keys and take charge of the Episcopal Church of the city immediately and will notify the Rector of the same that they will not be allowed to hold services in the same today. (signed) W. J. Jordan, Lt. Col., 104 Ohio Volunteers, Provost Marshal."³⁰

During this difficult period, more than eighty families belonging to St. James remained in Wilmington.

After the surrender of Wilmington, Rev. Watson continued to pray for Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederate States of America. General Hawley sent a curt mandate to the rector to discontinue without delay this custom. Rev. Watson replied quickly to the military officer that he had no canonical authority to justify obeying such an order. He said if he should do so he would make himself a party to the infringement of the religious liberty of the Church. Generals Schofield and Hawley filed detailed reports with the military headquarters and requested further orders as to this matter. A reply was received that the officers had followed approved procedure in the position they had taken, but if the determined southern minister wished to continue prayers for the Confederate leader, he was to be permitted to do so without further interference or molestation.

Definite spite against St. James Church was later manifested by General Hawley when the church was seized and converted into a hospital. It was later discovered in old records that the building was never half-filled with patients.³¹

The pews in the church were ripped out with pick axes and all furnishings were removed by military authority on April 7, 1865.³² About five days later, Rev. Watson wrote to Abraham

Lincoln giving his reasons for not praying for the President of the United States. This letter was never mailed, possibly because Lincoln was assassinated two days later.³³

Religious services were resumed in St. James Church in December, 1865, after \$613.00 was expended for the necessary repairs to the building.³⁴ On January 5, 1886, a committee was appointed by the vestry to prepare a bill to be presented to the United States Congress to reimburse the parish for the use and damage to the church building by Union troops in 1865. Instructions were given to the senior warden in May, 1898, to proceed with the claim against the federal government for damages to the church during the occupation of 1865.³⁵

On November 8, 1900, the vestry presented the United States government, in the Court of Claims, with a bill for \$5,330.00 for damage to the church. The bill was itemized as follows: cost of replacing pews and partial repairs to the woodwork and furniture, paid by Rev. Watson at the time the church was returned — \$613.00; carpenter work, labor, storage and drayage — \$50.00; estimated damage to the building not repaired at the time — \$500.00; loss of income during ten months — \$4,167.00.³⁶ The amount of \$3,131.00 was received in March, 1905 from the government as compensation.³⁷

Adrian H. VanBokkelen gave money in March, 1868, for the construction of a porch on the south side of the church.³⁸ On May 11, 1869, a plan by Henry Dudley, a New York architect, for the enlargement of the church by constructing a transept on the south side was approved by the vestry.³⁹

In April, 1871, the ceiling of the church was declared unsafe and was removed. Due to this work and other alterations, church services were moved to St. John's Church on North Third Street. By December 5, 1871, work was far enough along to order that the new ceiling and tracery of the church to be oiled and varnished.⁴⁰

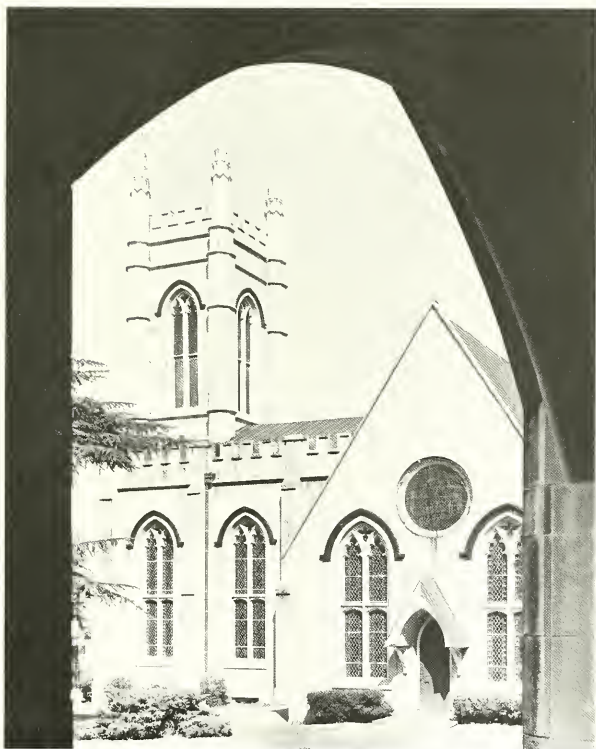
The new and handsome solid brass lectern, ordered directly from Europe, was used for the first time on March 28, 1875.⁴¹ During the same year, repairs were made to the exterior stucco walls, window frames, roof and the iron fence. It was also ordered that the front door and vestibule be put in better condition.⁴² The doors and hinges of the pews were ordered to be removed in March, 1884.⁴³

The plans of Henry Dudley, architect, for alterations to the chancel and the church in general were accepted on May 9, 1885.⁴⁴ It was reported in October, 1885, that the alterations and improvements of the church were nearing completion.⁴⁵ Between November, 1888 and February, 1889, the stuccoing of the church building had been completed, the interior walls had been frescoed and the side galleries removed.⁴⁶ Later, in May, 1891, wainscoting was installed in the church to correspond with that

of the transept.⁴⁷

In July, 1891, J. B. Halcott, architect of Albany, New York, advised against adding a north transept as he felt the additional sittings would not justify the expense and that the acoustics could be injured. The vestry decided against the addition. They approved the plans of Mr. Stent, of New York, for decorating and renovating the church.⁴⁸ The work was completed by October, 1891 at an approximate cost of \$1,318.00. The vestibule had been repaired, lighting extended, new carpet installed and cushions acquired.⁴⁹

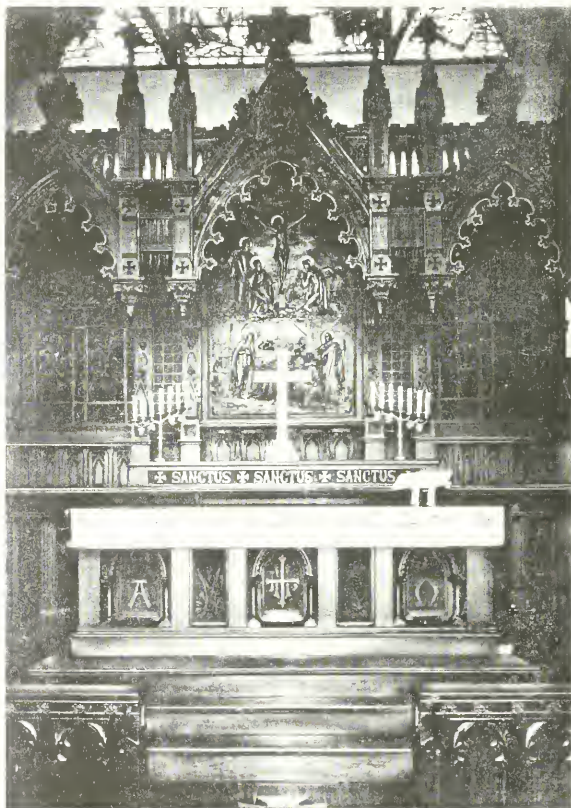
Mrs. Bridgers and her family, in August, 1891, donated the funds for the construction of a parish house as a memorial to the late Robert R. Bridgers. The new building was to be located on the northwest corner of the graveyard lot.⁵⁰



View of South side of St. James Episcopal Church. (Courtesy of N.C. Department of Cultural Resources — Archives Section.)

The contract for building the parish house was awarded to Valentine, Brown & Company in March, 1892, for \$7,500.00.⁵¹ To make room for the new structure, several graves were moved outside of the proposed walls. Some of the graves were moved to Oakdale Cemetery at the request of John H. Hill of Goldsboro, NC.⁵²

During the year 1892, the vestry accepted the gift of Harry G. Latimer of a carved oak reredo and altar to cost about \$2,000.00. Silas McBee, of Sewanee, had submitted a design and also suggested that a window above the altar should replace the painting located there.⁵³ The design by McBee for the panels and window to represent the Nativity, Crucifixion and Resurrection was accepted.⁵⁴



St. James Church Altar and Reredos. (Courtesy of New Hanover County Public Library.)

The new parish house was used for the first time on November 27, 1892. The Sunday School rooms were on the upper floor, with the meeting rooms on the lower. In the church, about the same time, the window designed by McBee was placed in the south wall of the chancel, replacing the painting given by Mrs. Sallie M. Holmes. A window above the reredos, "The Resurrection of Christ," given by the St. Agnes Guild, was also designed by McBee.⁵⁵

The vestry of St. James noted on May 16, 1893 that the circular window in the south wall of the transept, "Our Saviour Blessing The Children," would be completed in twelve days.⁵⁶

Post and Walker, architects of Wilmington, in February, 1894, recommended that buttresses be erected on the parish house to extend five feet from the foundation. John H. Hanby was employed for the work of construction.⁵⁷ In January, 1895, a committee was appointed by the vestry to arrange for the conversion of the gas lights in the church to electricity.⁵⁸ Later, in June, 1898, the wall and the iron fence on the Third Street side of the church were lowered.⁵⁹

Gifts were numerous to the church between 1898 and 1909. In June, 1898, W. L. deRosset gave a Bishop's Chair as a memorial to his father, A. J. deRosset. The chair was designed by Silas McBee. In February, 1902, a Litany Desk was given by J. W. Atkinson, in memory of his parents, and in March, 1903, a credence bracket, hymn board, processional cross and a communion service for the use of the sick were given. Mrs. Tench Cox gave brass candlesticks for the altar in May, 1904, and six silver alms plates were given by Miss Emily Bridgers as a memorial to her mother.⁶⁰

A new lighting system was installed in the church in December, 1908 at a cost of \$180.00. Additional lights were installed in October, 1911 and in February, 1912.⁶¹

The vestry allowed Rev. Milton to have a cloister built in November, 1910 to connect the church with the parish house without expense to the church treasury. The cloister was completed in November, 1912.⁶²

In December, 1910, a fire in the church on Christmas morning damaged the reredos, altar cloths and woodwork to the amount of \$500.00. By October 5, 1911, work on the interior of the church had been completed by J. and R. Lamb.⁶³ The pulpit given by the deRosset family, in memory of William L. deRosset and the font cover given by Mrs. Gaston Meares in memory of her mother, Mrs. Armand J. deRosset were dedicated on November 5, 1911.

It was announced on August 24, 1916, that work was to begin shortly on a new classroom to be added to the Sunday School building. Mr. and Mrs. George B. Elliott donated the room in memory of their daughter, Mabel Green Elliott, who had died earlier. The room was designed by Hobart Upjohn, well-known architect of New York, and the contract was awarded to Rhodes

& Underwood of Wilmington.⁶⁵ In the fall of the same year, the vestry authorized the remodeling of the parish house steps, windows and doors.⁶⁶

St. James Church participated in the efforts of the nation for victory during World War I. Fifty-six communicants of the church served in various branches of the armed forces. A Roll of Honor was placed in the church vestibule. Funds were collected to provide the necessary equipment for military chaplains. In January, 1918, St. James was asked by the Diocesan Church War Fund Committee to collect \$1,000.00 to help supply clergymen for active duty.⁶⁷ A memorial service was held on January 5, 1919 for Frank Lenox Williams, who had died from injuries suffered in the war.⁶⁸

Money was received in March, 1921 from the estate of Mrs. Eliza Potter Settle to purchase hanging lamps for the church sanctuary.⁶⁹

During the year 1922, Hobart Upjohn, the New York architect, submitted plans for the extension of the parish house. In December of that year, Mr. Chadbourn was appointed to serve as the building committee superintendent during construction, which was estimated to cost about \$70,000.00. The contract for the extension was awarded to U. A. Underwood of Wilmington, at \$57,581.65 on April 16, 1923. The extension was to be east of the old one, to be two stories in height with a tower, a replica of the church tower on Third Street. Due to construction, once again, it was necessary to remove some graves from the old churchyard.⁷⁰

St. Mary's Guild announced in April, 1923, that they would give about \$3,500.00 for a room in the parish house as a memorial to the late Kate deRosset Meares, who had organized and



20th Century additions to St. James Episcopal Church, including parish house and Milton Hall, above and following page. (Courtesy of New Hanover County Public Library.)

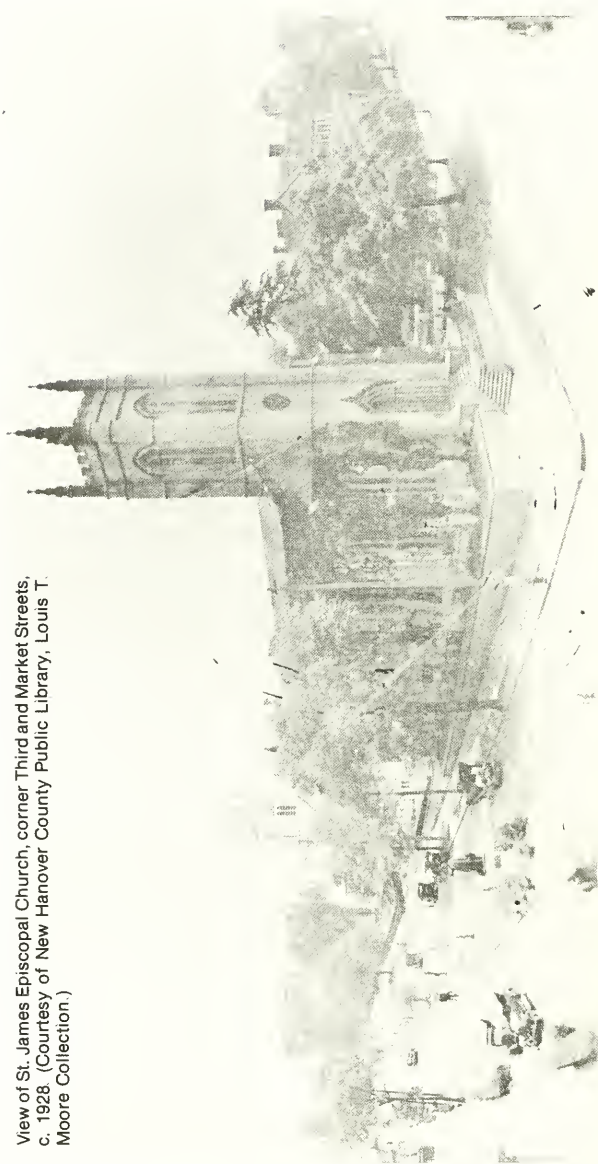


sponsored the Guild. It was also announced that the children's playroom in the basement of the new parish house was to be called the Boatwright Room as a memorial to the late Swift Miller Boatwright.⁷¹

Construction of the annex to the parish house was started in May, 1923, and the completion was expected by January 1, 1924. In November, 1923, it was announced that the new parish house would be ready for opening exercises on March 4, 1924.⁷²

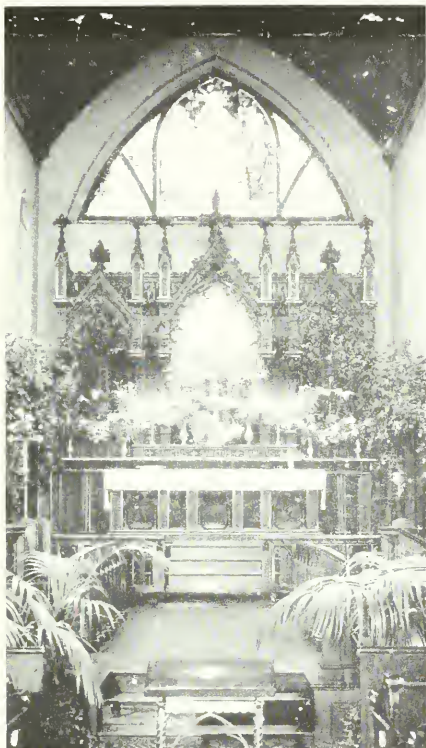
During the second half of the 1920s, many gifts were bestowed on the church. In April, 1925, the bequest of Thomas Settle provided the seven-branched candlesticks for the chancel, and in March, 1926, Mrs. James Kenan gave funds for some painting and repairing on the church interior. Mrs. Graham

View of St. James Episcopal Church, corner Third and Market Streets,
c. 1928. (Courtesy of New Hanover County Public Library, Louis T.
Moore Collection.)



Kenan, in May, 1926, provided funds for walks on the church grounds, and Miss Emily Bridgers, about the same time, provided for the remodeling and repairing of the cloisters.⁷³

Many repairs were accomplished in the church during the 1930s. The interior of the "Great Hall" was repaired and redecorated. The slate roof was repaired, termite damage to the church structure looked after, and the Elliott Room was refinished for a children's room.⁷⁴



Interior of St. James Church, Easter, 1938.
(Courtesy of New Hanover County Public Library.)

On April 30, 1939, the 100th anniversary of the formation of St. James Parish was celebrated at services with the presiding bishop, the Rt. Rev. Henry St. George Tucker, and the rector emeritus, Rev. William H. Milton, as the preachers. Others having part in the services were the rector, the Rev. Mortimer Glover, the Rev. William Capers Munds from Corpus Christi, Texas, and the Rt. Rev. Thomas C. Darst.⁷⁵

The St. James vestry went on record in February, 1940, as

1729

1839

1939

The One Hundredth Anniversary
of the
Building of Saint James Church



The Two Hundred and Tenth Year of the Parish

WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA

APRIL 30TH-MAY 1ST, 1939

(Courtesy of New Hanover County Public Library.)

being opposed to the widening of Third Street in front of the church building, and its use as a truck highway.⁷⁶ More termite damage was discovered in the spring of 1940, and Mr. and Mrs. George Thomas paid for the repairs to the chancel and rectory.⁷⁷

With the war clouds gathering once again in June, 1940, the public was invited to assembly daily in St. James Church for a ten-minute service from 1:10 to 1:20 p.m. for God's guidance and blessing in the uncertainty of world conditions.⁷⁸

Peter B. Ruffin, in April, 1941, reported to the Church Council on the activities of the committee at the new Camp Davis, a military training camp at Holly Ridge, NC. Soon after this report, church pamphlets were printed and distributed to every soldier at the camp.⁷⁹

Gifts to the church in 1941 and 1942 included a church flag donated by Mrs. N. N. Davis and Miss Maria Walker, and Eucharistic Altar candles given to the parish as a memorial by Mrs. Edwin A. Metts. In 1942, George Thomas donated a hand-rail for the parish house steps and Mrs. George Hooper Mallett gave a stained glass window in memory of her husband.⁸⁰

During World War II, the vestry offered the parish house basement for the use of servicemen on Saturday nights. The U. S. Army was to furnish cots for the men. The basement was used from April, 1942 through June, 1944. In November, 1943, it was reported that 116 communicants of St. James were serving in the military service.⁸¹

It was decided in December, 1943, that the Lippitt, Walker, Bridgers, Munds, Bolles and deRosset Memorial Funds were to be used for church repairs estimated at \$9,050.00. These repairs were needed in the church proper, the parish house and the rectory.⁸²

On D-Day, June 6, 1944, special religious services were held at St. James Church at 8 p.m.⁸³ Following the surrender of Japan and the end of World War II, the vestry approved the placing of a plaque in the church listing the names of those communicants who had served in the armed forces during the war.⁸⁴

In November, 1951, a request was approved from Mrs. Jane Lynch Harriss to place a memorial tablet in the church for Lt. James Borden Lynch, who had been killed during World War II.

A new kitchen for the parish house was provided in October, 1948, by Mr. and Mrs. Hargrove Bellamy, in memory of Mrs. Robert R. Bellamy.⁸⁵ The following year, 1949, was a period of many more gifts to the church. Miss Carrie T. Moore donated a new lectern Bible, along with \$200.00 to perpetuate it. It was given as a memorial to the deceased members of her family. An altar prayer book was given by James H. McKoy in memory of his father, with \$50.00 to perpetuate it. The Altar Guild was given \$500.00 in memory of W. S. Bunting by Mrs. Bunting. Seven handsome light fixtures for the nave and transept were donated by Mrs. J. V. Grainger, in memory of Mr. Grainger. Mr. G. G. Thomas donated a stoker for the furnace which was installed without labor charge by Daniel Penton.

It was decided in January, 1951, for the church to purchase the Wootten property adjacent to the church facing Third Street for \$16,000.00. This was paid for by funds from a bequest by Marguerite Walker, the Dr. Milton Memorial Fund, by St. James Parish youth work, other contributions, and a \$3,600.00 loan.⁸⁶ Following an investigation in September, 1954 by an architect, it

was decided to remove the old house. In February, 1955, it was decided to raise \$2,500.00 for its removal.⁸⁷

Two views of Wootten House, adjacent to St. James Church. (Courtesy of Wm. M. Reaves Collection.)



(c. 1900)



(1955, just prior to demolition)

Through the years, many members of St. James Church made efforts to protect old documents and records. The earliest recorded evidence of this was in May, 1940, when Katie G. McKoy (Mrs. Adair), Fannie G. Taylor (Mrs. Walker, Jr.) and Miss Elizabeth McKoy were appointed a Historical Committee and they secured glass cases for the display of old records. In September, 1951, under the direction of Carolina Flanner and Mrs. A. M. McKoy, some of the parish records, dating from 1811 to 1852, were laminated by the North Carolina Department of Archives and History in Raleigh.⁸⁸

According to federal authorities, in March, 1953, the title to the old St. Philip's Church, in the ruined colonial town of Brunswick, including a small parcel of land, was invested to St. James Church, and the vestry appointed a committee to convey the real estate to the North Carolina Department of Conservation and Development to be used as a park. After further investigation, it was discovered that the Diocese owned the property.⁸⁹

Peter B. Ruffin, Thomas H. Wright, Jr. and Lewis Ormond were appointed a committee in January, 1955, to negotiate with Monimia MacRae for the purchase of her residence on the northeast corner of South Third and Dock Streets. In February, it was decided to raise \$46,000.00 for the purchase.⁹⁰



MacRae House, N.E. corner of Third and Dock Streets. Later called the "Church House."

During 1955, the Leslie Boney architectural firm of Wilmington was employed for the addition to the parish house, and in October, of the same year, a special building committee for the MacRae House, renamed the Church House, included Mrs. T. K. Lynch, Mrs. H. J. MacMillan, Miss Jennie Murchison, Mrs. Walker Taylor, Jr., Emsley Laney and M. H. Vaughn.⁹¹

For the relief of the congregation, the church was air-conditioned in April, 1956. In January, 1957, the church office was moved to the old MacRae House or Church House. During the same month, Leslie N. Boney made a generous contribution to the parish.⁹²



Architectural drawing of St. James Church showing new additions and newly acquired property. (Courtesy of New Hanover County Public Library.)

In May, 1957, Edward Ward, chairman of the purchasing committee, reported that \$1,500.00 had been spent for furniture for Milton Hall.⁹³

The memorial tablet for Augustus Foster Lyde, placed in the church by St. James Chapter of the Woman's Auxiliary, was dedicated in September, 1959.⁹⁴

It was learned in June, 1960, that due to the move from Wilmington of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, the parish would lose about \$4,939.00 annually. By January, 1961, the number of communicants had dropped to 703 due to the railroad's relocation.⁹⁵

During the following year (1962) repairs were made to the parish house and rectory. New furnishings were placed in the parish house Lippitt Room.⁹⁶

The 1960s brought a consternation to the community of a possible nuclear war, and St. James decided in July, 1962, that in case of such an emergency the basement of the parish house was to be used as a fall-out shelter by the Civil Defense authorities.⁹⁷

A fire occurred in the church on December 20, 1964 when the Advent wreath fell and burned the chancel floor.⁹⁸

Vesper services were held at St. James Church on January 17, 1965, in observance of the Fort Fisher Centennial. The fort surrendered to Union forces on January 15, 1865 after a furious land-sea battle.⁹⁹

In April, 1965, Milton Grigg, of Arlington and Charlottesville, Virginia, was employed to be associated with

Ballard, McKim and Sawyer, architects of Wilmington, to draw plans for the chancel area.¹⁰⁰

During the year 1965, the vestry of St. James gave \$150.00 to the Historic District Commission which was to be used for establishing a master plan for a Wilmington historic district.¹⁰¹ Numerous gifts were donated to St. James Church during this year. Generous sums of money were received from William Walker and the estates of Dr. John T. Hoggard, Edwin R. Carpenter, Eleanor G. Wright (Mrs. Thomas H.) and the Kenan Foundation. After some investigation, it was discovered that Sarah Graham Kenan's annual contribution of \$3,000.00 would continue until her death at which time the parish would receive \$100,000.00 from her estate.¹⁰²

Mrs. Ashley Curtis bequeathed to St. James Parish a liberal sum in May, 1967 for the construction of a chapel in the church in memory of her parents. The chapel was to be in the northeast corner of the church and was to be called the Murchison-Curtis Memorial Chapel.¹⁰³

On June 7, 1971, the vestry appointed Leora Hiatt McEachern (Mrs. Edward) to serve as archivist for the parish. Due to her extreme interest in the history of the lower Cape Fear area, it was only a short time before all articles of historic value were organized, preserved and filed for future reference. On September 8, 1975, a historic plaque was placed on the front wall of St. James Church by the Historic Wilmington Foundation.¹⁰⁴

During 1976, banners depicting events in the 250 years history of St. James were officially accepted by the parish. The design and research was done by John W. Parker and the banners were made by the ladies of the parish. On July 4, 1976, a Bicentennial patchwork quilt was hung in the church. It had been assembled by a special committee under the direction of Mrs. Raymond Holland, Jr.¹⁰⁵

From 1975 through 1977, the church was repaired and repainted at a cost exceeding \$25,000.00.¹⁰⁶ In February, 1979, the firm of Ballard, McKim & Sawyer, of Wilmington, was employed to study the physical needs of the parish and to draw up plans and specifications for the future.¹⁰⁷

William G. Robertson was honored in 1979 when a plaque was placed in the church, and the Children's Chapel was dedicated in the same year to the memory of William L. Walker. Rachel Fox (Mrs. Jared) donated a large sum to expand and improve the Memorial Garden that she had previously given.¹⁰⁸

On November 18, 1979, a special display to commemorate the 250th anniversary of St. James Parish was opened in the New Hanover County Museum.¹⁰⁹

Chapter 1 — Footnotes

1. *CR* I, 572.
2. Colonial Office. American and the West Indies, 5/293. Public Records Office, London.
3. *SR* XXV, 298; *CR* IV, 606; *Lee*, 209.
4. *CR* IV, 540; *SR* XXV, 263.
5. DB AB, 141.
6. *SR* XXV, 243, 244; *Sprunt*, 536.
7. *Lee*, 216, 217.
8. DB D, 248.
9. *CR* V, 839.
10. *SR* XXV, 391; *SR* XXIII, 535; *Lee*, 214.
11. *North Carolina Gazette & Wilmington Post Boy*.
12. Church Archives.
13. J. Bryan Grimes (ed.), *North Carolina Wills & Inventories* (Raleigh, Edwards & Broughton, 1912), 164.
14. *SR* XXII, 803.
15. *SR* XXIII, 803, 804; *Lee*, 217.
16. *Drane*, 29; Mortimer DeMott, "Sojourn in Wilmington and the Lower Cape Fear, 1837," *Lower Cape Fear Historical Society Bulletin*, XXII (May, 1979).
17. *Drane*, 30; Mortimer DeMott, same.
18. Vestry Records.
19. Vestry Records; Sexton files, Church Archives.
20. Stove & Heating file, Church Archives.
21. Vestry Records; Mortimer DeMott, same.
22. and 23. Vestry Records.
24. Vestry Records; DB E, 328.
25. Diocesan Journal.
26. Certificate of Consecration, Church Archives.
27. Diocesan Journal.
28. *Waddell*, 58.
29. and 30. C.S.A. file, Church Archives.
31. Reaves, Bill, Cape Fear series, 1976.
32. C.S.A. file, Church Archives.
33. Original letter in C.S.A. file, Church Archives.
34. C.S.A. file, Church Archives.
35. Vestry Records.
36. C.S.A. file, Church Archives.
37. Treasurer's Report, Financial Files, Church Archives.
38. through 63. Vestry Records.
64. *The Morning Star*, Wilmington, NC, November 7, 1911.
65. *The Morning Star*, Wilmington, NC, August 24, 1916.
66. and 67. Vestry Records.
68. World War I file, Church Archives.
69. Vestry Records.
70. Vestry Records; *The Morning Star*, Wilmington, NC, May 4, 1923.
71. through 74. Vestry Records.
75. *The Morning Star*, Wilmington, NC, May 1, 1939.
76. through 93. Vestry Records.
94. Lyde file, Church Archives.
95. through 104. Vestry Records.
105. Records of Mr. Parker and Mrs. Holland.
106. through 109. Vestry Records.

CHAPTER 2

ST. JAMES CHURCH TOWER, BELL AND CLOCK



View of St. James Church tower and clock (1976) (Courtesy of Wm. M. Reaves Collection.)

The first church of St. James was described as a large square building, with neither steeple nor belfry.¹

In January, 1813, John Davis was paid \$10.00 per year to ring the courthouse bell to announce church services.² John Nelson was the bell-ringer during 1817 for which he was paid \$20.00.³ The vestry paid Elizabeth Bishop \$40.00 in May, 1822 for ringing the courthouse bell for the past year, and they continued to pay her each year through 1839.⁴

On October 19, 1840, in the new St. James Church which now had a tower, Platt Ketchum Dickinson presented the church with a bell and clock. The bell was cast by George H. Holbrook, of East Medway, Massachusetts, and it was installed by George J. Read. Mr. Read's expenses from and to Medway and his twenty-three days in Wilmington were \$132.00.⁵

It was reported to the vestry in December, 1842, that the church bell had cracked.⁶

Because of the value to the town of Wilmington, the church clock was repaired at its expense, but not to exceed \$25.00.⁷

The first recorded Easter sunrise carol service held on the church tower was on April 1, 1866. It became a regular Easter celebration event, and in April, 1886, it was reported that the carol services in the tower began at half past seven. In 1901, Professors S. A. Schloss and J. E. Willson accompanied the singers with their cornets.⁸

The vestry on April 6, 1869 approved a request from the city of Wilmington to have a fire alarm bell attached to the church bell.⁹

The *Wilmington Messenger*, dated January 17, 1893, reported that St. James Church had adopted a reform in the ringing of the church bell for services. It was to be rung for four minutes; some of the other churches continued to ring their bells ten to fifteen minutes.¹⁰

During May, 1938, engineers inspected the old church tower of St. James and declared it was safe. There had been termite damage to other sections of the church and these were repaired by January, 1939.¹¹ In December, 1941, the high windows in the tower were repaired and tightened, but in November, 1942, it was discovered that the tower was in need of more repairs. In June, 1944, once again, the tower windows were repaired by J. B. Lucas, contractor. Later in May, 1946, Harry Woolerton was engaged to repair the defective brick-work inside the church tower. The work was completed in October, 1946 at a cost exceeding \$400.00.¹²

More repairs were ordered to the church tower in February, 1975, and at this time the cost was \$6,000.00.¹³

Chapter 2 — Footnotes

1. *Drane*, 30; Mortimer DeMott, "Sojourn in Wilmington & the Lower Cape Fear, 1837," Lower Cape Fear Historical Society Bulletin XXII, May, 1979.
2. Vestry Records; *Sprunt*, 537.
3. Sexton file, Church Archives.
4. Bell file, Church Archives.
5. Bell file and Clock file, Church Archives; Engraving on Bell.
6. 7. Vestry Records.
8. Walker Scrapbook, 1841; *The Morning Star*, Wilmington, NC, April 27, 1886, April 7, 1901.
9. Vestry Records.
10. *The Wilmington Messenger*, Wilmington, NC, January 17, 1893.
11. through 13. Vestry Records.

CHAPTER 3

ST. JAMES CHURCH GRAVEYARD

The earliest mention of the St. James graveyard was in the year 1781, during the British occupation of Wilmington. During this time, the enclosure of the graveyard was removed and burned.¹

On March 22, 1800, Benjamin Blaney and his wife, Margaret, of Smithville (now Southport, NC), deeded a lot on the northwest corner of the church lot to the vestry for a burial ground. The consideration was 20 pounds. The property was known as Lot No. 9 in the town of Wilmington and was at one time owned by William Evans, a relative of Blaney. The deed was made out to John Wilkings and Nathaniel Hill, vestrymen of St. James Parish, and the deed was witnessed by Elisha Callendar and William Pike. It was specified in the deed that those who helped to pay for the property were to receive first choice of burial plots. An ancestor of Major W. N. Harriss, Nehemiah Harriss, received his burial plot under these terms.²

Joseph Jacobs, the church sexton, was instructed on March 15, 1815 to have a proper hearse built and another bier made for



St. James Graveyard (1975), S.W. corner of 4th and Market Streets, Wilmington, N.C., above and on following page. (Courtesy of Wm. M. Reaves Collection.)



use at funerals. On the same date, Thomas Callendar was to grant permission for strangers to be buried in the graveyard. No person was to enclose any part of the graveyard without the permission of the church vestry.³ The vestry gave Mr. P. K. Dickinson a lot in the graveyard for his many donations to the church.⁴

In May, 1844, Edward B. Dudley bought a vault in the graveyard. He was governor of North Carolina, 1836-1841, and the first president of the Wilmington & Raleigh Railroad, later Wilmington & Weldon Railroad.⁵

About three months later, as there was very little space left in the yard, the vestry decided that only members of the congregation, or persons whose family had been buried there, could be buried there without the consent of the vestry. When Oakdale Cemetery was opened in 1855, many graves from the yard were moved there.⁶

From one of the lots owned by them, the vestry decided to select a place of interment in the graveyard for families of the rectors. The wife of the rector, Augusta Endicot Drane, had died.⁷

It was ordered by the vestry in December, 1870, that the graveyard gate and part of a broken wall be repaired.⁸ In April, 1876, it was noted by a newspaper reporter that there were broken tombs in the cemetery and it was generally neglected. The article read as follows:

“There the fathers of our hamlet sleep and have slept for generations. We have been grumbling lately about the wall. Inside, the condition of things is rather worse.

Broken slabs, unfilled graves, or deep holes that once were graves, filled with the debris of broken slabs and monuments covered with moss and lichen, with illegible inscriptions, made illegible by neglect or outrage; also inscriptions that are legible, inspired by affection or gratitude to names still familiar. There is an engine house in one corner of the cemetery, and scattered here and there, or leaning against the foundation of the building, there are other evidences of this forgetfulness and decay. If nobody else will undertake the job, the city authorities ought to employ some competent person to transcribe these inscriptions and at the public expense, and record them upon the books of the corporation for future reference. It will be remembered that some time ago a great many of these remains were removed to Oakdale.”⁹

In a follow-up article which appeared in July, 1876, it was mentioned “We are glad to see that the weeds and grass in St. James’ church-yard are being cut down and removed. This will be a decided improvement if the work is to be thoroughly accomplished.”¹⁰ A complaint was made in March, 1879, that a number of young boys were in the habit of penetrating the vaults in the church-yard, lifting the lids of the coffins and otherwise disturbing the dead. It was suggested that measures be taken by the proper authorities to put a stop to it.¹¹

An art exhibition was held in June, 1885 to raise funds for improving the burying ground. About \$239.00 was collected.¹²

In August, 1889, the vestry of St. James ordered that the tombstone of Cornelius Harnett be “redressed and relettered.” The work was done at John Maunder’s marble yard. The inscription on the headstone and footstone had been almost obliterated by time. The slab of brownstone was about seven feet in length and two feet in width, and it was believed to have been brought from Connecticut at the time of Harnett’s death. Before beginning the work of removing the stones from the graveyard, Mr. Frank Meier, the foreman at the marble yard, was warned by one of the church’s vestrymen: “Be careful with those stones. They are as precious as gold dust.” The work was accomplished quickly and the stones replaced.¹³

To make room for the new parish house in April, 1892, several graves were moved outside the proposed walls of the structure.¹⁴ At the request of John H. Hill, of Goldsboro, NC, some graves of his relatives were moved to Oakdale Cemetery. They included Mrs. Mildred Holmes, died 22 August 1835, age 44; Gabriel Holmes, 22 December 1786 - 23 September 1848; Mrs. Mary Ann Hill, 27 September 1810 - 11 January 1837; Mrs. Mary Sampson, died 12 June 1830, age 85. The sexton was paid \$10.00

for removing graves and headstones.¹⁵

Market Street, next to the church, was paved in June, 1904. This area had once served as part of the first church and graveyard.¹⁶ In August, 1907, the vestry allowed the north wall of the new fire house to be placed on the line of the south brick fence, which bordered the graveyard.¹⁷

The church wardens were directed in April, 1909, to fence in the graveyard to protect the property from trespassing, especially by the firemen. By May, a wire fence had been installed along Fourth Street.¹⁸

In May, 1923, Leon Andrews, of Woolvin-Andrews, supervised the removal of fourteen graves in order to erect the new parish house. It was ordered that a member of the vestry be present during the exhuming and reburying.¹⁹

The Society of Colonial Dames of North Carolina were given permission in February, 1929, to place a stone marker in the graveyard to the memory of Thomas Godfrey, the "father of American drama" and author of "The Prince of Parthia."²⁰ The stone was unveiled on April 30, 1929.²¹

A tourist, Mr. Clark, in March, 1940, found the gravestone of one of his ancestors in bad condition and stated that he would have it repaired.²² R. S. Sturdevant, a landscape architect, was engaged in November, 1946, to draw a plan for the beautification of the graveyard.²³

In January, 1948, it was announced that a new kitchen was to be built for the parish house, and this required the removal of three more graves.²⁴



"Shadows of the Past," watercolor by Samuel D. Bissette of Wilmington, N.C. (Star-News Photo, 1974.)

A committee for the restoration and preservation of the church graveyard was organized in June, 1970, with Mrs. Peter Fensel as the chairperson. A large gift from the Kenan Fund in June, 1971 was to be used for the renovation and beautification of the graveyard. Much work was accomplished by the graveyard committee, and during the United States Bicentennial (1976) it had been transformed into a beautiful place of historic interest. Mrs. W. G. Broadfoot worked with Mrs. Fensel in this special project.²⁵

Chapter 3 — Footnotes

1. *Drane*, 29; Mortimer DeMott, "Sojourn in Wilmington & the Lower Cape Fear, 1837," Lower Cape Fear Historical Society Bulletin XXII, (May, 1979).

2. Graveyard file, Church Archives; *The Morning Star*, Wilmington, NC, March 24, 1919; March 25, 1919; *The Evening Dispatch*, Wilmington, NC, March 23, 1919.

3. 4. Vestry Records.

5. Graveyard file, Church Archives.

6. 7. 8. Vestry Records.

9. *The Morning Star*, Wilmington, NC, April 30, 1876.

10. *The Morning Star*, Wilmington, NC, July 25, 1876.

11. *The Morning Star*, Wilmington, NC, March 26, 1879.

12. Vestry Records.

13. *The Wilmington Messenger*, Wilmington, NC, August 17, 1889.

14. through 19. Vestry Records.

20. Vestry Records; *News-Dispatch*, Wilmington, NC, April 28, 1929.

21. *News-Dispatch*, Wilmington, NC, May 1, 1929.

22. through 25. Vestry Records.

CHAPTER 4

ST. JAMES CHURCH CHOIR AND ORGAN

The earliest mention of music in St. James Church was in March, 1812, when the vestry ordered that certain pews be reserved for the use of the "singers."¹

On October 21, 1818, an organ for the church, in nine packages, was shipped by Edward Winslow from Boston, Massachusetts in the schooner "New Priscilla."²

James L. Richardson, of Richmond, Virginia, on December 7, 1818, applied for the position of organist. He had been the leader of a circus band and had seen an advertisement in a Boston newspaper.³

After 21 years service, the organ was replaced. On October 23, 1839, sixteen boxes containing an organ were shipped from New York on the schooner "A. F. Thorn."⁴

Abraham Burr served as volunteer organist in November, 1842.⁵

In October, 1847, the vestry accepted a proposition presented by S. Jeneta, J. Gammell and W. A. Burr to supply the church with a new organ, if at their own expense, part of the gallery could be altered to suit the new organ.⁶

On April 29, 1848, the new organ was shipped in twenty-four packages from New York on the schooner "Tioga" by George Jardine. It was to arrive in Wilmington in May.⁷ On January 30, 1852, Stephen Jewett declined compensation which was due him for the installation of the organ in the gallery.⁸

Mrs. Mary Cushing was serving the church as organist in November, 1872. She resigned in November, 1882, because of an accident. In September, 1873, Mr. Denck, of Columbia, SC, was hired to repair the organ.¹⁰ The vestry on March 4, 1874 ordered music books for the choir at a cost of \$25.00.¹¹

It was discovered in April, 1879 that the organ was being injured by dust and a leak in the roof. The vestry ordered that the leak be repaired and the plaster repaired.¹² In May, 1885, Hooks & Hastings, of Boston, were ordered to repair the organ at a cost of \$650.00.¹³

The rector was authorized on April 7, 1885, to organize a choir with expenses not to exceed \$600.00 a year.¹⁴ *The Morning Star*, on October 17, 1885, reported that the new surpliced choir at St. James under the direction of Professor Frank Wright, formerly of Philadelphia, Pa., was progressing nicely.¹⁵

In October, 1887, Edwin Thorpe, the church organist, was to

have charge of the music as both organist and choir master.¹⁶ Thorpe, who had served for five years, died in December, 1887.¹⁷

Catherine deRosset Meares was thanked on March 6, 1888, by the vestry for serving as supply organist between the time of the death of Mr. Edwin J. Thorpe and the arrival of Louis L. Curtis, the new organist and choir master.¹⁸ In October of the same year, it was decided to install organ pipes.¹⁹

Mr. Curtis resigned as organist in December, 1889, and Mr. Gilmore was appointed to replace him. During the winter of 1890, the organ was renovated by Henry Erbin & Sons.²¹

The Wilmington Messenger of September 6, 1892, reported that Samuel Pearson, the new organist, had arrived from Alabama where he had been the organist for the Christ Church, Tuscaloosa. He was an Englishman, having been in the United States for four years.²²

In October, 1894, the church vestry decided to spend \$75.00 to employ a tenor for the choir. The previous year, Miss Schwartz, an excellent soprano, had returned as a choir member.²³

The St. James Church choir was organized under the direction of Edward H. Munson, choir master and organist, in September, 1896.²⁴ The next month it was decided to pay the choir boys a dollar a month.²⁵

The following fourteen boys, eleven ladies and six men were in the choir on Christmas, 1897: Ed Bailey, Rob Calder, Willie Gore, Fred Hamme, Charlie Morriss, Norwood Orrell, Lewis Orrell, Harry Poezolt, Alban Pleasants, Howard St. Johns, Joe Smith, Willie Smith, Harry West, Charlie Yopp, Mrs. W. L. Latta, Misses Fair W. Payne, Lola Martin, Carrie Myers, Annie Lee, Annie B. deRosset, Mattie Horne, Cammie Lord, Ada Cooper, Belle Anderson, Elizabeth Waddell, Messrs. C. H. Cooper, J. V. B. Metts, Eugene Beery, Thomas deRosset, Robert Rankin, A. S. Holden and the organist, E. H. Munson.²⁶

A serious conflagration was miraculously prevented in December, 1899, when John Knight, the sexton, found the choir room on the southeast corner of the church filled with smoke. A broken water pipe had extinguished most of the fire before the firemen arrived. The flames had melted the water pipe.²⁸

E. H. Munson resigned as organist for the church in April, 1903.²⁹

A new pipe organ, given by Mrs. Preston L. Bridgers, as a memorial to her husband, was played for the first time on October 23, 1904. The organ was built by Hutchings-Votey Organ Company, of Boston, Massachusetts, and had two manuals, with nineteen speaking stops, 1,044 pipes, seven couplers, seven combination piston knobs and four combination pedals. James Charles Craft was now the organist.³⁰ In April, 1905, it was reported that the wires to the new organ had been cut and it was thought that it had been done by the choir boys.

The choir members in October, 1905, were Mrs. Anne deRosset Harris, Mrs. Charles W. Bidgood, Miss Margaret Nash, sopranos; Mrs. Green Fenly, Miss Hart and Miss Belle Anderson, altos; Green Fenly, John Van B. Metts, H. deRoulhac Hamilton, tenors; Alex S. Holden, W. G. W. Krafft, F. Carley West, and Mr. Darden, bass. The choir master and organist was again E. H. Munson.

The vestry, on April 5, 1906, decided that the choir music was "too operatic" and they preferred quartets and anthems.³² In November, 1906, a "trainer" was employed for the choir boys.³³ Once again in January, 1911, payment to the choir boys was discontinued.³⁴

In February, 1912, the choir committee reported that Mr. Johnson had been notified that the vestry desired simpler music and asked that he spend more time in increasing and training the choir, and in December, 1912, Mr. Johnson was notified that his service as choir master would no longer be required after January 1st.³⁵ Mr. McCord, on January 8, 1913, accepted the offer to become choir master and organist. In April, 1913, new choir vestments were purchased for \$130.00.³⁶

Proper music must have been forthcoming from the choir around March, 1919, as the vestry congratulated them for the recent excellent music.³⁷

In January, 1920, Mr. Robertson resigned and Mr. Spencer was to become organist and choir master by February 1st. In October, 1920, Mr. Myers was employed as choir master and organist, and in the next month, the music committee was authorized to employ singers for the choir and to pay a tenor \$75.00 a month, if necessary.

Rapid changes in choir master and organist continued for in October, 1921, J. E. W. Lord was engaged for that position, and in May, 1922, he resigned, and W. G. Robertson was employed to take his place.³⁸

In January, 1924, the vestry took notice of the faithful and efficient service of the organist and choir. They also granted a contract with H. E. Hodgson & Son, of Norfolk, Virginia, for \$2,900.00 for needed repairs to the organ for the an electric console.³⁹ The church's music committee, in November, 1925, granted \$240.00 for additional paid choir members. The choir master, William Robertson, and members of the choir were thanked once again in April, 1929, by the vestry for their faithful and satisfactory service.

The paid choir members in January, 1932, included Mrs. Lamont Smith, Margaret Gibbons, Frederick Willetts, Cecil M. Appleberry and F. B. Harrill. In October, 1932, the Jane D. deRosset Fund was used to purchase new hymnals for the church pews.⁴¹ From the estate of a family member, Mr. Elliott, in 1932, presented an organ to be used in the "Great Hall" of the parish house.⁴²

In April, 1941, the choir was authorized to spend \$35.00 for the material to make new vestments, and in May, 1944, the amount of \$92.61 was authorized to repair and replace choir vestments. In December, 1944, the vestry authorized that new vestments were to be purchased at a cost not to exceed \$50.00.⁴³

The choir, in April, 1949, included four paid members. Cecil Appleberry, one of the paid soloists, resigned in 1951.⁴⁴ During 1951, Mrs. Alexander Sprunt solicited the funds and made new vestments for all the male choir members.⁴⁵

Mrs. Walker Marvin gave a substantial sum to the church organ fund in 1953, in memory of her mother, Lucy Wright Giles. During the same year, a cross for the junior lenten choir was given in memory of Harrison M. Symmes, by Mrs. Symmes and the family.⁴⁶

In December, 1952, it was discovered that the church organ was again in need of serious repairs. In September, 1953, it was learned that the final cost for repairing and rebuilding the organ was \$4,328.42. Two years later, in September, 1955, an organ maintenance and upkeep contract was signed with the Charles J. Miller Company at \$90.00 a year.⁴⁷

On July 1, 1963, William G. Robertson, the organist and choir master for forty-nine years, resigned. On July 15th, Margaret Farrow was employed to replace Robertson. In September, W. G. Robertson was elected Organist-Choir Master Emeritus and was presented an inscribed scroll and a gift.⁴⁸

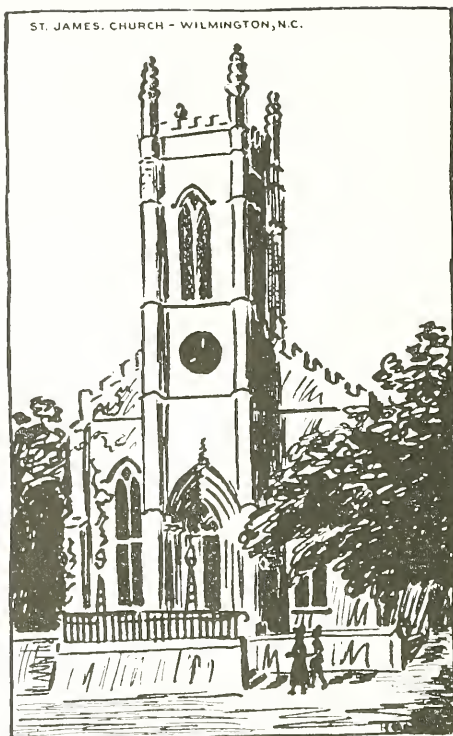
A new organ was purchased in June, 1965 for \$50,450.00. A handsome bequest from the estate of Dr. John T. Hoggard was put into the organ fund. Additional gifts were received from William Walker and the Kenan Foundation. The new organ was installed in the balcony during the spring of 1966, causing the chancel to be changed with choir stalls and the console removed. The organ was dedicated on June 6, 1966 at 8 p.m.⁴⁹

The vestry decided in October, 1966, that there would be no paid choir members after the close of the year. On January 30, 1967, Margaret Farrow resigned as organist and choir director, effective August 1st. A choir member, Carl Wilson, served as organist during August until Josef Privette arrived as the new organist and choir director.⁵⁰ Privette resigned in 1968, and he was succeeded by Charlsie Harris (Mrs. James).⁵¹

A substantial sum of money was given in May, 1970, by James Kenan to purchase new seats for the choir in memory of William Atkinson.⁵²

Chapter 4 — Footnotes

1. Vestry Records.
2. through 4. Organ file, Church Archives.
5. 6. Vestry Records.
7. Organ file, Church Archives.
8. through 14. Vestry Records.
15. *The Morning Star*, Wilmington, NC, October 17, 1885.
16. *The Morning Star*, Wilmington, NC, October 15, 1887.
17. through 21. Vestry Records.
22. *The Wilmington Messenger*, Wilmington, NC, September 6, 1892.
23. Vestry Records.
24. *The Wilmington Messenger*, Wilmington, NC, September 17, 1896.
25. Vestry Records.
26. *The Wilmington Star*, Wilmington, NC, December 25, 1897.
27. Vestry Records.
28. *The Morning Star*, Wilmington, NC, December 12, 1899.
29. Vestry Records.
30. *The Morning Star*, Wilmington, NC, October 22, 1905.
31. *The Morning Star*, Wilmington, NC, October 22, 1905; November 12, 1905.
32. through 52. Vestry Records.



Sketch of St. James Church
by Claude
Howell of Wil-
mington, N.C.

1962



Drawing of St. James Church by Art Newton (1922-1964), of Southport, N.C.

CHAPTER 5

THE WOMEN OF ST. JAMES CHURCH

“The great army of women in the Church who are called by Providence to what should always be considered the paramount duties, of wives and mothers, daughters and sisters, or whose spheres of work are otherwise pointed out by circumstances, are, in addition to these duties, accomplishing a vast amount of work for the bodies and souls of men. Not to supersede their work, but to render it a hundred fold more effective, we need women, who freed from the calls of society and the cares of the family, can give themselves wholly to the work, women specially trained, technically and spiritually.” (From “Sketches Of Church History In North Carolina,” published by Wm. L. deRosset, Jr., Wilmington, NC, 1928.)

The Ladies Working Society of St. James was organized for charitable purposes and commenced in August, 1820.¹ The officers of this Society in November, 1833, were Mrs. William Lord, superintendent and treasurer; Miss F. M. London, secretary, and Mrs. Lippitt, Mrs. Cowan, Mrs. Walker and Miss Price, assistant managers.²

On December 14, 1833, the North Carolina General Assembly ratified the incorporation of the Ladies Working Society. Named in the enactment were Sarah E. London, Ann London, Elizabeth Lord, Mary Orme, Catharine deRosset, Catharine Harris and Catharine Robeson.³ The Society, by May, 1834, was supporting a charity school for about forty members.⁴

For \$250.00, the Ladies Working Society bought from John Swann, a lot between the church and the graveyard, about fifty feet back from Market Street. On this lot they built Society Hall which was used later as the parish house until 1892.⁵ From March, 1840 through April, 1841, Society Hall was used by New Hanover County for holding the Circuit Courts.⁶

The Ladies Working Society paid \$245.00 in March, 1843, for a stone wall to be built on the north and west sides of the church, and in March, 1855, they gave to the vestry \$200.00 to be used to build a study at the rectory.⁷

The St. James Society for Parochial Work was formed in November, 1866, by the ladies of the parish.⁸ In October, 1868, the Ladies Working Society conveyed to the vestry, for one dollar, the lot on which was situated the Society Hall. The deed was

signed by E. J. deRossett, president; Frances Watson, secretary and treasurer, Alice H. Dickinson and Eliza H. Lord.⁹

St. Agnes Guild had a bazaar in April, 1888, and it was called "The Feast of the Poets." The charter members of this Guild in 1897 were Kate deRossett Meares, Alice London Boatwright, Jean Harriss Delano, Cammie Lord, Bessie Brock Toon, Mary Polk Davis, Elsa Munds, Lola Martin Taylor, Kate deRossett MacMillan and Ethel Myers.¹⁰

In September, 1921, it was announced that a woman was to be employed as St. James Parish secretary, to also have charge of collections, the church school instruction and to assist the rector. The salary was to be \$600.00 a year. Mrs. Arthur Belden was the first woman parish secretary, hired in October, 1921. She was succeeded by Miss Leonora Cantwell in March, 1925, and Virginia Toot in November, 1944.¹¹

The Woman's Auxiliary, in February, 1946, had six chapters: Rector's Reserve, Mrs. Emsley Laney chairman; St. Elizabeth's, Mrs. Hargrove Bellamy, chairman; St. James, Mrs. Horace Emerson, chairman; St. Madelin's, Mrs. James D. Carr, chairman; St. Mary's, Mrs. Walter Marvin, chairman; St. Cecelia.¹²

The first meeting of the Junior Altar Guild was held in March, 1946. Mrs. Cranmer was the instructor and Mrs. Emmett Bellamy the director.¹³

In January, 1947, Eleanor Snyder was the Christian Education secretary. She resigned in April, 1948 to accept a position with the Diocese of North Carolina. She was succeeded by Marjorie Gammon in September.¹⁴

Ida Lee Brinkley (Mrs. Edwin T.) was employed in 1949 as the new parish secretary. She resigned in February, 1951, and was succeeded by Margaret Groover, who remained in that position until October, 1956.¹⁵

Virginia Lynch (Mrs. T. K.) was appointed the director of the kindergarten in July, 1952 to replace Margaret Y. Moore, resigned. In April, 1953, Virginia Lynch and Mildred Lawther (Mrs. Thomas) reported that in the sixth year, the kindergarten had 33 pupils, with 17 on a waiting list. Margaret Y. Moore became the kindergarten director in August, 1957, replacing Virginia Lynch, who had resigned.¹⁶

A stained glass window was installed in the Children's Chapel in 1955 by the Woman's Auxiliary in memory of Mary Clark Thomas (Mrs. George) for her long and faithful service to the children of the parish.¹⁷

Mrs. Jean King was employed as church secretary in October, 1956, and Louise Citchett (Mrs. George) became the

church bookkeeper. Mrs. King was succeeded as parish secretary by Mrs. Mathews in June, 1958. Louise Cobb (Mrs. T. W.) was employed in October, 1965, to assist Mrs. Mathews, and remained as her assistant until September, 1968. Margaret Murray was part-time assistant secretary in November, 1968.¹⁸

Fannie Grainger Taylor (Mrs. Walker) died in April, 1960. She had served as a member of the vestry, had been president of the Diocesan Auxiliary, a member of the Department of Christian Education of the Province of Sewanee and a delegate to the Triennial Conventions of the Episcopal Churchwomen. She had bequeathed a generous sum to the parish.¹⁹

Jane Williams MacMillan (Mrs. Henry) died in January, 1964. She had been president of the Diocesan Woman's Auxiliary for six years, a member of the National Executive Board of the Woman's Auxiliary for six years, a member of the National Council for six years, and was the first woman of the Episcopal Church to serve simultaneously as a member of the Board and Council.²⁰

Margaret Y. Moore resigned as director of Christian Education in June, 1957. She had served since September, 1955. Marianna Hane became director in June, 1965. She resigned in May, 1967. Denise M. Johnson served from July, 1967 through April, 1969.²¹

In March, 1970, Mrs. Ed Connette was employed as director of the day school with Mrs. Paul Clemmons, Mrs. Phil Hammond and Mrs. Frances Thornton as teachers. Mrs. Connette resigned in November, 1973 as she was leaving the city. In June, 1970, Mrs. L. E. Woodbury III and Mrs. Robert Godley were to be co-directors of the church school for the coming year.²²

In May, 1970, Mrs. William Shaw and Mrs. John Gemmell assumed the responsibility for the maintenance of the Memorial Garden.²³



PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE DIOCESAN AUXILIARY

Mrs. Henry MacMillan.....	1926-1932
Mrs. Louis J. Poisson.....	1938-1944
Mrs. Walker Taylor, Jr.	1953-1956

PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE PARISH AUXILIARY, LATER CALLED EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

Mrs. Leland Ellis (Diane)
 Miss Allie Morris Fechtig
 Mrs. William L. Harris (Vivian)
 Mrs. Andrew Harriss, Jr. (Louise)
 Miss Esther Harriss
 Mrs. J. Howard Highsmith (Elizabeth)
 Mrs. Raymond Holland, Jr. (Virginia)
 Mrs. Emsley Laney (Katherine)
 Mrs. Henry J. MacMillan (Jane)
 Mrs. Hugh MacRae II (Bambi)
 Mrs. Walter Marvin (Lucile)
 Mrs. Hugh Morton (Julia)
 Mrs. Daniel Penton (Frances)
 Mrs. William Perdew (Margaret)
 Mrs. Louis J. Poisson (Gethyn)
 Mrs. Lester Preston (Cora)
 Mrs. Duncan Randall (Mabel)
 Mrs. William B. Rodman IV (Mary Louise)
 Mrs. Frank Ross (Lina)
 Mrs. J. Laurance Sprunt (Annie Gray)
 Mrs. Laurance G. Sprunt (Elizabeth)
 Mrs. Harold Spurlock (Daphne)
 Mrs. Walker Taylor, Jr. (Fannie)
 Mrs. Ransey Weathersbee, Jr. (Dorothy)
 Mrs. James L. Wells, Jr. (Elizabeth)
 Mrs. Frederick Willetts, Jr. (Helen)
 Mrs. Harry Woolcott (Kate)

Chapter 5 — Footnotes

1. and 2. Journal, Church Archives.
3. Laws of North Carolina, Vol. 296, 191-192, Secretary of State's Office, Raleigh.
4. Diocesan Journal.
5. Deed Book W, 52; Woman's Work file, Church Archives.
6. Journal, Church Archives.
7. Journal.
8. Woman's Work file, Church Archives.
9. Deed Book WW, 241.
10. Woman's Work file, Church Archives.
11. Vestry.
12. Woman's Work file, Church Archives.
13. Junior Altar Guild file, Church Archives.
14. through 19. Vestry.
20. Mission Herald, Vol. 78, No. 4, p. 4.
21. through 23. Vestry.

CHAPTER 6

RELATED CONGREGATIONS AND THEIR BEGINNINGS

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Daily Journal, of February 7, 1852, reported that at a meeting of the St. James vestry it was decided to form another parish and to erect a new church edifice at the northeast corner of North Third and Red Cross Streets on a lot donated by A. J. deRosset, Sr., for that purpose. The structure was to be Gothic in style, of brick, and the cost was estimated at between \$12,000 and \$15,000.¹

The cornerstone for the new church was laid on November 21, 1853, with the Rt. Rev. Thomas Atkinson officiating, assisted by Rev. Drane.²

In December, 1856, and in April, 1858, the Ladies Working Society of St. James raised money to assist the work of St. John's.³

Rev. George Patterson resigned on March 15, 1870, as Rev. Watson's assistant at St. James Church to become the rector of St. John's Church.⁴ He served as rector of the church until September, 1880.⁵



St. John's Episcopal Church during demolition. (Courtesy of Wm. M. Reaves Collection.)

1. *The Daily Journal*, Wilmington, NC, February 7, 1852.

2. *The Tri-Weekly Commercial*, November 22, 1853.

3. *The Daily Journal*, Wilmington, NC, December 22-23, 1856; Woman's Work file, Church Archives.

4. Vestry Records.

5. *The Morning Star*, Wilmington, NC, September 24, 1880.

LEBANON CHAPEL

Mt. Lebanon Chapel was built at Wrightsville Sound in 1835 and services were conducted by lay readers from St. James with occasional visits from the rectors during the summer.¹

In May, 1836, it was announced at the Diocesan Convention that "a neat village church has been erected at Wrightsville, within eight miles of Wilmington."²

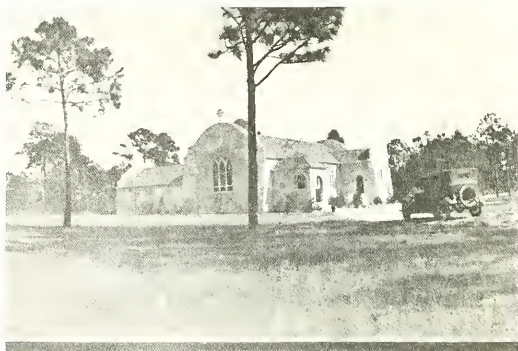
Mrs. Marian Potter conveyed to the vestry in June, 1875, the property of Mt. Lebanon Chapel. This was done in accordance with the known intention of the former proprietor, the late Thomas H. Wright, who had donated the $\frac{3}{4}$ of an acre in 1835 upon which the chapel had been erected. The original deed had been lost or mislaid.³

The St. James vestry appointed a committee in May, 1877, composed of Clayton Giles, William B. Giles and Charles Myers to oversee the building and grounds of Mt. Lebanon Chapel.⁴

In May, 1908, Pembroke Jones was appointed custodian of Lebanon Chapel, and in January, 1909, it was reported that the chapel was nicely fenced in and in good shape.⁵

The melodeon which had been presented to the chapel in 1857 by William B. Giles was given in July, 1912 to his grandson, Clayton Giles, Jr.⁶

Lebanon Chapel was to be sold to Mrs. Sarah G. Jones in January, 1920, and the money received given to the Diocese to help build a new church.⁷



St. Andrews-On-The-Sound Church, successor to Lebanon Chapel, Wrightsville Sound. (Courtesy of New Hanover County Public Library, Louis T. Moore Collection.)

1. *Drane*, 45; Vestry Records.

2. Diocesan Journal.

3. Deed Book MMM, 487-489; Vestry Records, 9 Jan. 1877.

4. through 7. Vestry Records.

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

This church had its beginning with the establishment of St. James Home in 1867. For one dollar, Armand J. deRosset and his wife, Eliza J. deRosset, conveyed to the St. James Church vestry in March of that year, some lots of land between Orange and Ann Streets, and between Eighth and Ninth Streets, to be used to establish a home for indigent widows and orphans. The Home was built on these lots.¹ During 1868, the Ladies Working Society raised \$1,300.00 for the benefit of the Home.²

In 1873, Cecelia Lawrence was in charge of the Home, and in February, 1880, she was received into the sisterhood of the Good Shepherd at St. James Church by Bishop Atkinson.³

The St. James Church vestry decided in October, 1887, to start a day nursery at the Home, and in April, 1889, the vestry also decided to use the bequest from Mrs. Dawson to erect a chapel at the Home.⁴



Church of the Good Shepherd (Episcopal).

The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd relinquished the charge of the work at St. James Home in June, 1892. It was then decided to discontinue the school, but to continue services there under the direction of the rector in charge. Sister Cecelia, who had taken charge of the work in October, 1873, returned to New York.⁵

The Rev. John B. Gible, in July, 1892, became assistant rector at St. James Church, and he was given special duties at St.

James Home.⁶

In September, 1892, the name "Chapel of the Good Shepherd" was given to the St. James mission on the south side of Wilmington.⁷ During the year 1892, the northwest corner of Sixth and Queen Streets was purchased by the parish of St. James. A small house on the land was turned around to face Queen Street and a small church, 70 by 30 feet, seating 200, was erected. A hall was also built which was about 25 feet square and it was used for many kinds of church activities. Two rooms of the small house were used as a reading room for the men and boys of that neighborhood, and two other rooms were for the use of the rector. The first service was conducted in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd on November 6, 1892. The old reredos and altar from St. James were placed in the Chapel, and the old font was also used.⁸

Sister Cecelia, aged 58, died in New York in January, 1894. Burial services were conducted in Wilmington by the Bishop, assisted by the Revs. Carmichael, Strange, Gible, Skinner and Wootten, all Episcopal clergymen of the city. The pall-bearers were boys who had been taught by her and many were her Godsons: Alex. Leslie, George Herlbert, John Hughes, Richard Spooner, Tilghman Howard, William Harker and William Spooner.⁹

Rev. John Benners Gible, in May, 1894, was empowered to work full time at the Chapel. He had served as assistant rector at St. James Church since July, 1892, with special duties assigned to him. He resigned from the Chapel in January, 1895.¹⁰

The Chapel of the Good Shepherd was consecrated on May 22, 1896. Rev. Tolson was in charge. He resigned in February, 1898, to accept a call elsewhere.¹¹

During the year 1897, Miss Mary S. MacRae made a generous donation to the Chapel to aid in its good works.¹² Miss Susie Price was employed to work at the Good Shepherd in June, 1900. Two small houses were converted into one building for her use.¹³

From December, 1902 to February, 1903, Rev. John B. Cannon, of Tennessee, served the Chapel. He resigned to continue his studies at Sewanee.¹⁴

The Rev. Harold Thomas, of Florence, SC, was called in January, 1905 to be assistant rector at St. James Church and to take charge of the Chapel of the Good Shepherd.¹⁵

In November, 1905, the vestry decided to build a parish house on a lot given to the Chapel by Thomas H. Wright. The building was to have two stories with an auditorium on the first floor and recreation rooms on the second. St. James Brotherhood agreed to assist in the construction and to help equip it. A bowling alley was added in February, 1906, at a cost of \$300.00.¹⁶

Between December, 1905 and March, 1906, Harry Lester

Durrant, a native of the British West Indies and a senior in the theological class at Sewanee, had charge of the work at the Good Shepherd.¹⁷ The Rev. Thomas P. Noe, of Beaufort, accepted the call in April, 1906 to take charge of the Chapel. He and his family arrived on June 2, 1906.¹⁸

The Chapel of the Good Shepherd was completed in June, 1906 at a cost of \$3,684.05.¹⁹ The following January (1907) \$12,000.00 from the Armand deRosset Memorial Fund was put into a trust fund to be used for the support of the rector and workers of the Chapel of the Good Shepherd. On March 25, 1907, with Bishop Strange present at a special meeting, the Chapel of the Good Shepherd was formally organized as a parish to be known as "The Church of the Good Shepherd," with Rev. Thomas P. Noe as the rector. The following vestrymen were elected: Messrs. James H. Burriss, D. D. Barber, A. G. Alderman, R. J. Sellers, R. S. Pridgen, D. A. Rowan, J. C. McAllister, J. A. Gregory and C. P. Newton. There were 185 confirmed and 485 baptized members in the new parish. In June, 1907, the Church of the Good Shepherd became an independent parish, and William Calder was elected trustee of the Memorial Fund.²⁰

The St. James Parish House organ was given to the Good Shepherd for their use in October, 1908.²¹

Plans were begun in December, 1909 to have a new brick house of worship in the near future. The cornerstone was laid in October, 1911 with the appropriate ceremonies. The members of the building committee included Rev. Thomas P. Noe as chairman, J. H. Burriss, D. D. Barber, Anson Alligood and Swift Boatwright.²²

The new church was completed in 1913. St. James Church had contributed financially for the completion of the new church by that date.²³ In June, 1913, the St. James vestry agreed to convey the property at Sixth and Queen Streets, the church building, hall and deaconess' house to the trustees of the Diocese for the benefit of the parish of the Good Shepherd.²⁴

The vestry of St. James in June, 1923 decided to sell the property of the Church of the Ascension and consolidate the work there with the work at the Good Shepherd. The Church of the Ascension was organized into a mission by Bishop T. C. Darst in February, 1916. It was located at 1119 South Third Street.²⁵

Between the 1920s and the 1940s, the church was served by Revs. J. B. Gible, J. B. Cranmer, W. A. Townes and Harvey W. Glazier.

1. Vestry Records; Deed Book UU 666.

2. Vestry Records.

3. *The Morning Star*, Wilmington, NC, February 1, 1880.

4. through 6. Vestry Records.

7. Vestry Records; *The Wilmington Messenger*, Wilmington, NC, November 5, 8, 1892.

8. Vestry Records.
9. Vestry Records; *The Morning Star*, Wilmington, NC, January 23, 26, 1894.
10. through 15. Vestry Records.
16. Vestry Records; *The Morning Star*, Wilmington, NC, November 25, 1905.
17. *The Morning Star*, Wilmington, NC, December 10, 1905.
18. Vestry Records; *The Wilmington Messenger*, Wilmington, NC, June 3, 1906.
19. Vestry Records.
20. Vestry Records; *The Morning Star*, Wilmington, NC, March 26, 1907.
21. Vestry Records.
22. Vestry Records; *The Morning Star*, Wilmington, NC, October 27, 1911.
23. and 24. Vestry Records.
25. Vestry Records; *The Wilmington Dispatch*, Wilmington, NC, February 15, 1916.

CHAPTER 7

RECTORS

REV. JOHN LaPIERRE

Rev. John LaPierre was ordained in 1707 and came to America in 1708. There is some evidence that he was appointed by the Bishop of London to officiate in both South Carolina and North Carolina. It is known that he served in many churches as a missionary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, 1732-1755. He ministered in St. James Parish from 1729 to 1733.

(*Weis*, 64; *Lee*, 206; Deed Book AB, 133; Guide To Historical Markers, Raleigh, 1979)

REV. RICHARD MARSDEN

Rev. Richard Marsden was for many years Chaplain to the Duke of Portland and journeyed with him to the island of Jamaica, from there to America. He resided in St. James Parish at its formation. He conducted services regularly in the Cape Fear area, at his residence known as the Hermitage Plantation, and in Onslow County. He served without compensation until he obtained a temporary appointment from the Venerable Society, about 1730. He died in 1742.

(*CR IV*, 11; *Lee*, 207, 208; Mae Blake Graves, *Land Grants of New Hanover County*, 1980, p. 142)

REV. JAMES MOIR

Rev. James Moir came directly from London on appointment by the S.P.G. He resided first in Wilmington, then in Brunswick, and served both places. At this time, worship services were held in the courthouse, located at the intersection of Front and Market Streets. At this time, Wilmington had about 3,000 inhabitants, two-thirds of whom were black. Half of the whites were dissenters of various denominations. There was no church, no glebe or house for the rector according to a letter written by Rev. James Moir to the S.P.G. Moir officiated twice a month twenty miles from Wilmington and once every three months in places that were thirty-six miles distant. In writing about North

Carolina and the lower Cape Fear in particular, he complained that "no Province in America as far as I can learn has more need of Missionaries and none can deserve them less." The Rev. James Moir left the Cape Fear area in 1747.

(*Weis*, 66; *Lee*, 209, 211; *SR XXV*, 244; *CR IV*, 606)

REV. JOHN McDOWELL

Rev. John McDowell arrived from England in January, 1754 and officiated as rector of St. James until May, 1757. He served both St. James and St. Philip's until June, 1758 when he was moved to Brunswick at the request of Governor Dobbs. During his service, lotteries were held to raise funds for the construction of both churches.

(*CR VI*, 232; *VI*, 452-466; *SR XXIII*, 502; *Lee*, 211)

REV. MICHAEL SMITH

Rev. Michael Smith came to St. James from South Carolina in June, 1759. The vestry wrote the S.P.G. that Mr. Smith was obliged to hold services in six different places in the parish. He left Wilmington by February, 1762 to become a chaplain on a British naval vessel.

(*Lee*, 211, 225; *Weis*, 90; *CR VI*, 58)

REV. JOHN BARNETT (or BARRETT)

Because of the difficulty of deciphering early hand writing, there is some confusion as to whether this name is Barnett or Barrett. According to the family records, including Bible records, of Andrew Harriss, Jr., whose ancestor was Elizabeth, daughter of this clergyman, it was Barrett; also William L. deRosset's *Pictorial and Historical New Hanover County and Wilmington, North Carolina* has Barrett. A June 11, 1766 letter from the clergyman to the Bishop of London, now in possession of James P. Harris, Wilmington, has Barnett; in 1981, the Archivist from the S.P.G., London, wrote that in their archives, the name is Barnett; the Colonial Records of North Carolina has Barnett.

Rev. John Barnett arrived in October, 1765 as a replacement for the Rev. John McDowell. He was sent by the S.P.G. By 1766, he was at St. Philip's Church. In June, 1766, Barnett wrote to the Bishop of London that on Saturday nights, St. James' members got intoxicated and appeared on Sunday mornings in very ill health.

(*Lee*, 213; *Weis*, 58; Original letter in possession of James P. Harris, Wilmington)

REV. JOHN WILLS

The S.P.G. sent Rev. John Wills to St. James in April, 1766, but as he had not obtained a license from the Bishop of London, he had to return to London to procure one. He returned in the spring of 1770 and remained until 1777. His original contract with the vestry, dated 16 April, 1766, agreed that he would officiate during the coming year at St. James eighteen Sundays and for six Sundays each at the Sound, Rocky Point, Long Creek, Black River and the Welsh Tract. Mr. Wills was the first clergyman to serve St. James exclusively, and was also the last to serve under the colonial government. The last meeting of the vestry under the colonial government was in December, 1775. Among the proceedings it was "Ordered that the Church Wardens at St. James parish join with the Colonel of the New Hanover Regiment and the Parson of said parish, to receive the legacy of the late Hon. James Innes, deceased. . . ." Innes' will left his estate, after the death of his wife, to be used to establish a free school. The colonel, the parson and the vestry were appointed executors.

The Rev. John Wills resigned and left Wilmington in 1777, the last of the Church of England ministers to serve in the lower Cape Fear.

(*Drane*, 21, 26; *DB D*, 402; *Lee*, 220, 221; *Weis*, 70)

REV. SOLOMON HALLING

By 1795, the Vestry had been reorganized, the church had been repaired and refurnished and the Rev. Solomon Halling arrived as the new rector. He reinstated regular services and endeavored to rebuild the congregation. He was ordained in 1792 after having been a surgeon in the Continental Army. St. James' Church received its charter in 1797. During his stay in Wilmington, he also served as principal of the Wilmington Academy. He also officiated in the laying of the "angle-stone" for the new St. John's Masonic Lodge in June, 1804. Halling resigned in 1809 and went to Georgetown, South Carolina.

(*SR XV*, 328; *SR XXII*, 1049; *Drane*, 31; *Builders of the Old North State, Selected Sketches*, by Marshall DeLancey Haywood, Raleigh, 1968, p. 102)

REV. DR. ADAM EMPIE

Rev. Empie served St. James from 1811 to 1814 and from 1816 to 1827. In November, 1811, Rev. Empie, aged 26, came from New York to be the rector. St. James had twenty-one communicants. He increased the church membership to 102 communicants by the time he resigned in January, 1814 to

become the first chaplain of the United States Military Academy at West Point. Rev. Empie married Ann Eliza Wright, daughter of Joshua Grainger Wright and Susan Bradley Wright, in Wilmington on March 24, 1815. He returned as rector of St. James Church in May, 1816.

A destructive fire occurred in Wilmington in November, 1819 and "such was the fury of the devouring flames that it was expected the whole town would go; providentially in the latter part of the fire the wind blew strong from the east or it is probable devastation would have extended even to the church. It is estimated that from 250 to 300 houses including the new Presbyterian Church, are entirely destroyed, swept as with the broom of destruction. . . ." Mr. Empie said to us, "that it was a judgement for your own misconduct, or that having property among the wicked you suffered with them. . . . It is a judgement for our impiety; search your hearts my brethen and see wherein ye have offended."

During Rev. Empie's ministry, Sunday schools and Bible classes were instituted, also an association for the education of poor children. In 1820, the Women's Working Association was organized. In October, 1827, Rev. Empie resigned to become the president of the William and Mary College.



Rev. Adam Empie, D.D. (Courtesy of
New Hanover County Public Library.)

In January, 1910, a request by Mrs. Adam Empie to place a tablet in the church in memory of the Rev. Adam Empie was granted. It was placed on the south wall of the church. The North Carolina Historical Commission informed the church vestry in June, 1956 that a highway marker was to be erected in front of the church on Third Street to honor the Rev. Adam Empie.

(Vestry Records; *Drane*, 33; Empie file, Church Archives; Guide to North Carolina Historical Highway Markers, Raleigh:State Dept. of Archives and History, 1964; Wright and Bradley family records, copies in possession of the compiler, E. M. McEachern; Letter from Rev. Thomas Wright to Robert Scott dated November 8, 1819, original in Archives of the Lower Cape Fear Historical Society)

REV. M. BETHEL JUDD

Rev. M. Bethel Judd became rector of the church in the Fall of 1815. Though his stay was of a short duration, he introduced more decorum into the religious services, and the congregation continued to increase. He resigned in April, 1816 and a Mr. Keeler, a divinity student, who had charge of the Academy, conducted services until a new rector was secured.

(Vestry Records)

RT. REV. JOHN STARK RAVENSCROFT

The Right Reverend Ravenscroft was offered and accepted the rectorship of St. James but he never served as such.

(Vestry Records; *Drane*, 41)

REV. THOMAS SMITH WEBB MOTT

The Rev. Thomas S. W. Mott, native of Nova Scotia, came as rector in December, 1827. He served only until June, 1828 due to poor health. In June, 1833, he married Susan A. Phillips in Hillsborough, NC, Rev. William Mercer Green officiated. Rev. Green was a native of Wilmington and had been a communicant of St. James.

(Mott file, Church Archives; Mott and Green family records, copies in possession of the compiler, Mrs. Leora Hiatt McEachern)

REV. WILLIAM DOUGLAS CAIRNS

Rev. William D. Cairns became rector of St. James in 1829. In May, 1831, at the Diocesan Convention, Rev. Cairns reported

that St. James had 146 communicants and 700 volumes in the church library. In 1832, a lot was purchased on the north side of Market Street, between Third and Fourth Streets, and the first rectory built, financed almost entirely by the Women's Working Association. The Rev. John Burke was received canonically into the Diocese and was in charge of the Academy in Wilmington. A black congregation was organized at St. James in 1833, and it held meetings on Sunday nights with an average attendance of almost 300. Rev. Cairns left St. James in June, 1833, and Rev. John Burke held services until December.

(*Drane*, 44; Diocesan Journal)

REV. THOMAS FREDERICK DAVIS

The Rev. Thomas Frederick Davis, eldest son of Thomas F. and Sarah Isabell (Eagles) Davis, was a native of Wilmington, NC. He worked as an attorney and Clerk of the New Hanover County Court before being ordained by Bishop Ives at St. James' Church. He became rector of St. James in December, 1833. In 1834, the Rev. Augustus Foster Lyde, a member of St. James, instigated the founding of the Chinese Mission of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and was the first Episcopal clergyman to volunteer for service in China. He was prevented from service in that field due to his illness with tuberculosis, but Chinese Episcopalians regard him as the father of the Chinese Episcopal Church. A tablet to his memory was placed on the east wall of St. James. Also in 1834, the Women's Working Association built Society Hall between the churchyard and the church. This was to be used as the Parish House until 1892. Lebanon Chapel was built at Wrightsville in 1835 and served by lay readers from St. James.

Rev. Davis resigned in 1836 to become rector of St. Luke's Church in Salisbury, NC. In 1853, he was elected Bishop of the Diocese of South Carolina.

(Davis file, Church Archives; *Drane*, 45-47; Crockette W. Hewlett and Leora H. McEachern (eds.), *Attorneys of New Hanover County 1724-1978*, Wilmington, n.p., 1979, p. 43; *The Episcopal Church Annual*, New York: Morehouse-Gorham Co., 1956, p. 381)

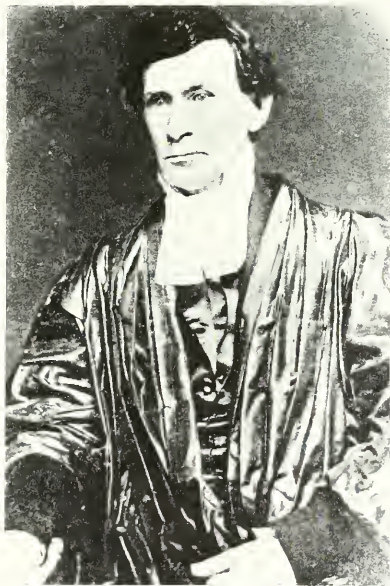
REV. ROBERT BRENT DRANE

The Rev. Robert B. Drane arrived at St. James Church in July, 1836 from Maryland. He was educated at Harvard University and ordained deacon in 1827. Rev. Drane conducted the last service in the old St. James Church on March 24, 1839 and demolition of the old church building began on March 25, 1839. He participated in laying the new cornerstone for the new church

on April 3, 1839 and the new church was consecrated on March 29, 1840. During this period of construction, regular religious services were conducted in Society Hall, owned by the Women's Working Association. Rev. Drane resigned in January, 1843, to accept the presidency of Shelby College, Shelbyville, Kentucky. He returned as rector of St. James in December, 1844.

During his absence, the Rev. Richard H. Wilmer, of Goochland County, Virginia, accepted the call as rector. He arrived in October, 1843. His brother, the Rev. George Wilmer, came as his assistant in November. He resigned in May, 1844 due to ill health. Later, he was consecrated Bishop of Alabama, the only bishop to be consecrated under the authority of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Confederate States of America.

During the second rectorship of Rev. Drane, the congregation increased greatly. St. John's Episcopal Church and St. Paul's Episcopal Church were begun during his ministry. In August, 1848, the vestry agreed that Rev. Drane might supplement his salary by holding services two Sundays at Wrightsville and two Sundays at Smithville, Brunswick County, during the summer months.



Rev. Robert Brent Drane, D.D. (Courtesy of New Hanover County Public Library.)

During the terrible yellow fever epidemic of 1862, Rev. Drane died while aiding the sick of his parish. A tablet to his memory was placed on the south wall of the church.

His son, Robert Brent Drane, was ordained at St. James Church in July, 1875, and he became assistant rector in August of that year. He resigned October, 1876 to accept a call to Edenton, NC.

(Drane file, Church Archives; *Drane*, 70; Vestry Records; *Daily Journal*, Wilmington, NC, October 15, 1862; *Diocesan Journal*, 1876, 144, 1877; *The Episcopal Church Annual*, New York: Morehouse-Gorham Co., 1956, p. 381; *The Living Church Annual*, New York: Morehouse-Gorham, 1948, p. 417)

RT. REV. THOMAS ATKINSON

The Right Reverend Thomas Atkinson became rector of St. James in December, 1862, without interrupting his duties as Bishop of North Carolina. He resigned in December, 1864, and Rev. A. A. Watson became the new rector. Bishop Atkinson died in January, 1881, and St. James vestry appointed a committee to attend to the drapery of the church where the funeral was to be held on January 4th. The Bishop was to be interred beneath the chancel of the church. His widow, Josepha Gwinn Atkinson died in December, 1887, and she was interred next to her husband. In April, 1912, a bronze cross was placed on the chancel floor to mark the location of the final resting place of Bishop Atkinson.

(Atkinson file, Church Archives; Vestry Records; Memorial plaque)

REV. ALFRED AUGUSTINE WATSON

Rev. Watson became assistant rector of St. James Church in March, 1863. He was a native of Brooklyn, New York, and had been ordained a priest in May, 1844, in St. John's Church, Fayetteville, NC. He served during the early days of the War Between The States as chaplain of the Second Regiment, North Carolina Troops. One of his earliest actions was to institute a carol service for children. The first was held December 28, 1865. On Easter Day, 1866, this children's carol service became an Easter service held on the church tower, which was to be held annually. During his ministry, St. Mark's Episcopal Church and the Church of the Good Shepherd were begun. For the care of indigent women and children, St. James Home, near Eighth and Orange Streets, was founded in 1870. In December, 1882, the Wilmington branch of the Woman's Auxiliary was organized.

Rev. Watson resigned in April, 1884. He was consecrated April 17, 1884 as the first Bishop of East Carolina. The ceremony took place in St. James Church with the Rt. Rev. William Mercer

Green, of Mississippi, officiating. He was a native of Wilmington, NC. (Note: The Rt. Rev. William Mercer Green, the first bishop of the Diocese of Mississippi, died in February, 1887. He was the son of William Green and the grandson of Samuel Green, all of Wilmington area.) On June 28, 1890, Bishop Watson and Miss Mary C. Lord were married in St. James Church.

The Rt. Rev. A. A. Watson died in April, 1905. His funeral was held from St. James Church. A memorial tablet in his memory was placed on the south wall of the sanctuary. The funeral services for Mrs. A. A. Watson were held in the church on November 1, 1909. She had died at the residence of her sister, Mrs. J. C. Munds. In April, 1917, an oil portrait of Bishop Watson was commissioned by the church vestry.

(Watson file, Church Archives; *Greensboro Patriot*, December 20, 1883; Vestry Records; *Daily News*, Jackson, Mississippi, January 21, 1979; Green file, Church Archives; St. James Parish Register; *Wilmington Morning Star*, November 2, 1909)

REV. WILLIAM H. LEWIS

On January 16, 1885, the Rev. William H. Lewis, the new rector of St. James, was the guest of J. H. Boatwright, and it was announced his first service would be on January 18th. He came to Wilmington from Meadville in the Diocese of Pittsburgh. Rev. Lewis was much interested in music, and organized a surpliced choir of over 40 men and boys. He resigned on October 15, 1887.

REV. DR. ROBERT STRANGE

Rev. Robert Strange, rector of the Good Shepherd in Raleigh, NC, accepted the call to become rector of St. James in October, 1887. He was about 30 years old. He was a native of Wilmington, NC, a member of St. James, and had graduated from the University of North Carolina. In December, 1887, he became the new rector. In December, 1897, Rev. Strange had been rector for ten years, and during that time he had baptized 303, confirmed 256, married 70 couples and had held 181 funerals. The communicants had increased from 362 to 548, and \$98,858.00 had been contributed to the church. A new parish house had been erected and the reredos and two stained glass windows installed.

Due to ill health, Rev. Strange was granted an indefinite leave-of-absence in February, 1899, and the Rev. Dr. Edward O. Flagg acted as rector pro-tem until Rev. Strange's return in August, 1900. The Rev. Strange resigned in November, 1900 to become rector of St. Paul's Church, Richmond, Virginia. He had

SERMON

—ON—

PROHIBITION

Delivered in St. James' Episcopal Church

WILMINGTON, N. C.

SUNDAY, MAY 10TH, 1908

—BY—

Rt. Rev. Robert Strange, D. D.

Bishop of the Diocese of Eastern North Carolina.

served St. James for thirteen years.

On November 1, 1904, the Rt. Rev. Ellison Capers, of South Carolina, presided at the consecration in St. James of Rev. Robert Strange as the Bishop Coadjutor of East Carolina. The committee of arrangements included Thomas D. Meares, J. Victor Grainger, Clayton Giles, M. F. H. Gouverneur and Swift Boatwright. The usual seating capacity of the church of 675 was raised to 829 by extra seating in the aisles and baptistry. A reception honoring Bishop Strange was held at night in the Wilmington Light Infantry Armory.

The Rt. Rev. Robert Strange died in August, 1914 and his funeral was conducted at St. James Church by the Rt. Rev. Joseph Blount Cheshire of the Diocese of North Carolina. He was assisted by the clergy of the Diocese of East Carolina. In September, 1914, a Maltese cross was placed in the chancel floor to mark Bishop Strange's final resting place. A portrait of Bishop Strange, painted by Mrs. William Latimer, was presented to the parish in April, 1945.

When Rev. Strange resigned as pastor of St. James in 1900, he was replaced with a temporary rector, Rev. F. D. Horsfield who was appointed specifically for a term of one year. He left in November, 1902.

(*The Morning Star*, Wilmington, NC, October 28, 1887, December 21, 1887; Vestry Records; Strange file, Church Archives; *The Morning Star*, Wilmington, NC, October 30, 1904, August 24, 1914)

REV. RICHARD WALLACE HOGUE

Rev. Richard W. Hogue, a recent graduate of the University of the South, accepted the call to become rector of St. James in June, 1902. He conducted his first service as rector on November 1, 1902. The Brotherhood of St. Andrew became a powerful influence in the spiritual life of the men of the church during his ministry. After six years, Rev. Hogue resigned in June, 1908.

REV. DR. WILLIAM HAMMOND MILTON

The Rev. William H. Milton conducted his first service at St. James on October 3, 1909. In May, 1916, Rev. Milton received a call to St. Andrew's Church, Louisville, Kentucky. A congregational meeting was held to discuss the four points that he wanted accomplished at St. James as a condition for his remaining: larger interest of the men of the parish; the placing of pews under the control of the vestry; better support of the night services; endorsement and cooperation of the congregation in the rector's efforts to enlarge the sphere of St. James' influence in the

community. All four points were accepted. The vestry praised Rev. Milton for the excellence of his work in the parish.

On March 13, 1918, Rev. Milton was granted a leave-of-absence from June to September to work with the War Commission in military camps. In November of the same year, the vestry authorized \$1,000.00 to buy Rev. Milton an automobile. In April, 1919, the request of the Board of Missions was granted that the parish release Rev. Milton for six months beginning about May 15th for a "great forward movement." Rev. Milton resigned as rector in April, 1919, but the resignation was not accepted by the vestry. During the same month, he was granted a year's leave-of-absence to direct the Nationwide Campaign for Every Member Canvass from New York. Various rectors from around the state served in his absence. In September, 1920, Rev. W. H. Wheeler was to have charge of the parish or one year during the absence of Rev. Milton. He was authorized to use the rectory and the parish automobile. He was a member of the National Council from 1920 to 1937, during which time he spent long periods of time in the field. He took an active part in the Bishops' Crusade for Spiritual Awakening in 1928.

In February, 1930, Rev. Milton was in need of rest and medical attention. He was given a vacation until his health



Rev. William H. Milton, D.D. (Courtesy of New Hanover County Public Library.)

improved. In November, 1934, Rev. Milton was recognized for twenty-five years service to St. James and was presented with a gold watch. In June, 1935, the Rev. H. Field Saumenig conducted services during Rev. Milton's vacation.

On March 4, 1936, the resignation of the Rev. Dr. Milton was accepted and he retired on November 1, 1936. In October, 1936, the vestry elected Rev. Milton as Rector Emeritus. He died on June 26, 1946. In 1949, a memorial tablet was erected for Rev. Dr. Milton, similar to those of Revs. Drane and Empie. The tablet bore the information that Rev. Milton had been rector of the parish, 1909-1936; rector emeritus, 1936-1946; member Diocesan Executive Council, General Convention deputy, 1907-1934; served on the National Council, 1920-1937; the first Executive Secretary of the Field Department of the National Church. A portrait of Rev. Milton was presented during a memorial service, by Mrs. Milton, in October, 1955. Milton Hall was built as a memorial to him in 1955, and a memorial plaque was placed in that building in October, 1956.

(Vestry Records; Memorial Tablet and Plaque)

REV. MORTIMER WORTH GLOVER

The Rev. Mortimer W. Glover, rector of Christ Church, Macon, Georgia, accepted the call to become rector of St. James Church in September, 1936. He was graduated from the University of the South, the Virginia Theological Seminary, and had been ordained priest in 1920. He had his first meeting with the vestry in November, 1936. In 1939, the 100th anniversary of the construction of the second St. James Church was commemorated in a two-day ceremony.

In March, 1945, St. James Church extended an invitation to all the men in Wilmington to attend the corporate communion and breakfast to be held on April 15th to honor Bishop Thomas Campbell Darst on his retirement. Rev. Darst had been consecrated the Bishop of East Carolina in St. James in January, 1915. Bishop Darst died at age 72 on September 1, 1948, and his funeral was conducted at St. James Church by Bishop Wright, Rev. Glover and the Rev. Stephen Gardner, chairman of the Diocesan Standing Committee.

On October 5, 1945, the Rev. Thomas H. Wright was consecrated Bishop of the Diocese of East Carolina at St. James Church. In October, 1927, Thomas H. Wright II had been approved as a candidate for Holy Orders, and in April, 1929, the vestry approved the ordination to the diaconate of Thomas H. Wright II, while he was a student at the Virginia Seminary. In April, 1930, the vestry approved the ordination of Wright to the priesthood.

In February, 1941, St. James Church forwarded congratulations to Rev. Thomas H. Wright on his election as Dean of the Cathedral in San Francisco, California.

Mortimer W. Glover, Jr., son of the rector of St. James, was approved by the vestry in September, 1947, as a candidate for the ministry. In January, 1954, Rev. Glover reported 41 baptisms and 25 confirmations during the past year, and in April, 1958, he reported to the vestry that St. James Church now had 785 communicants. The increase in membership and activities of the church required the purchase of additional space. Two buildings along Third Street were purchased, one was torn down and the office of the church was moved to the other; Milton Hall was built south of the parish house, and the new buildings were connected to the old by new cloisters.

Rev. Mortimer W. Glover resigned as rector in July, 1964, to become effective on December 31st. He had served for twenty-eight years, longer than any minister in the history of the parish. He was elected Rector Emeritus in December, 1964. In December, 1970, Rev. Glover celebrated the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. The parish was informed of the death of Mrs. Mortimer Glover in October, 1977, and in July,



Rev. Mortimer Worth Glover. (Courtesy of New Hanover County Public Library.)

1978, a generous bequest was received by the church from the estate of Mrs. Glover.

(Vestry Records; *The Morning Star*, Wilmington, NC, August 7, 1936)

REV. WILLIAM LUDWIG DOLS, JR.

The Rev. William L. Dols, Jr., of Arlington, Virginia, accepted the call to become rector of St. James Church in November, 1964. He was a native of Baltimore, Maryland, graduated from Washington & Lee University and the Virginia Theological Seminary. He attended his first vestry meeting as rector on February 8, 1965.

On October 2, 1968, the Rev. Hunley Elebash was consecrated Bishop Coadjutor at St. James Church. The four invitations allotted the parish were given Mr. and Mrs. Emsley Laney, Mrs. W. G. Broadfoot and Miss Allie M. Fechtig.

Rev. Dols resigned as of April 2, 1972. A committee composed of the wardens, Mrs. Frederick Willetts, Jr., Thomas H. Wright, Jr., Eugene Hardin, Jr., and Charles Williams was appointed to call a new rector.

(Vestry Records)

REV. ROBERT DANIELL COOK

On June 15, 1972, the Rev. Robert Daniell Cook became the rector. He received his education at Oberlin College, Sewanee and the Virginia Seminary. Rev. Cook came to St. James from the Diocese of West Virginia.

(Vestry Records)



Rev. Robert Daniell Cook. (Courtesy of New Hanover County Public Library.)



Bishops of the Diocese of East Carolina. (Courtesy of New Hanover County Public Library.)

CHAPTER 8

MEMBERS OF ST. JAMES CHURCH VESTRY (1814-1978)

Adams, E. Clark	deRosset, Armand John
Alligood, Anson	deRosset, Armand J., Jr.
Anderson, James	deRosset, Armand J., Sr.
Aranow, Robert H.	deRosset, W. L.
Atkinson, John W.	Dickinson, Platt Ketchum
Atkinson, William M.	Dunn, John Oliver
Ballard, Jethro	Elliott, George Blow
Barfield, William	Emerson, Horace M.
Barker, Richard E.	Fisher, Paul
Bear, Sigmund A.	Fleming, Daniel A.
Boatwright, J. H.	Fonvielle, Mrs. Margaret
Boatwright, J. L.	Fox, James C.
Boatwright, S. M.	Fulk, R. V.
Bradley, C. W.	Giles, Clayton
Bridgman, John	Giles, William
Broadfoot, Mrs. W. G.	Giles, William B.
Brown, Asa A.	Godley, Robert B.
Brown, John Potts	Graham, Charles P.
Brown, Thomas W.	Graham, Frederick B.
Bunting, T.	Grainger, J. Victor
Burr, Henry A.	Green, Charles F., Jr.
Burr, James G.	Green, James S.
Calder, Milton	Grimsley, Paul
Calder, Robt. Edward	Gwathmey, Richard B.
Calder, William	Gwathmey, Mrs. Richard B.
Callender, Thomas	Hardin, Eugene B., Jr.
Cardwell, Guy A.	Hardin, John H.
Chadbourn, Charles C.	Harriss, Andrew, Jr.
Clark, George T.	Harriss, Meares
Clark, H. Russell	Harriss, Nehemiah
Cochran, Robert	Harriss, W. N.
Cooper, Lenox, Jr.	Hasell, W. S.
Cowan, R. H.	Hicks, Charles M.
Cranmer, John B.	Hicks, Eugene C., Jr.
Cronly, Robert D.	Hill, Nathaniel
Davis, Carl H.	Hogue, Cyrus D., Jr.
Davis, George	Holland, Raymond, Jr.
Davis, W. W.	Hooper, Joseph Ward
Dawson, James	Hughes, J. Winder

Humphrey, Nathan W.
 Jewett, Robert D.
 Kassens, William D., Jr.
 Kelly, Hanson
 Kidder, George E.
 Lane, Levin
 Laney, Emsley A.
 Laney, Neill M.
 Latimer, Zebulon
 Lippitt, D. H.
 Lippitt, Jeremiah
 Lippitt, W. H.
 London, John R.
 Lord, William C.
 Lumb, George
 Lynch, Robert
 MacMillan, W. D., Jr.
 MacRae, Hugh, II
 Marsteller, Louis H.
 Martin, Alfred
 Marye, R. W.
 Mason, Lockert
 McKim, Herbert
 McRae, John
 McRee, Griffith J.
 McRee, J. F.
 Meares, Thomas D.
 Metts, E. A.
 Metts, James I.
 Metts, J. VanB.
 Miller, James T.
 Murchison, David, Jr.
 Murchison, Mrs. David, Jr.
 Murchison, John, II
 Murchison, John R.
 Murchison, J. W.
 Myers, Cornelius
 Nixon, Nicholas N.
 Ormond, Lewis F.
 Penton, Daniel H.
 Peschau, George L.
 Poisson, Louis J.
 Prevost, Stephen
 Pulliam, Stone C.
 Randall, Mrs. Duncan P.
 Rippy, Fred, III
 Robertson, Wm. Frederick
 Rodgers, H. E.
 Rorison, Harmon C.
 Rountree, George
 Ruffin, Peter Browne
 Sapp, Winfield
 Savage, Henry R.
 Scott, David H.
 Shadrach, Lawrence
 Sloan, Mrs. James
 Smith, William
 Sprunt, Laurence G.
 Sprunt, Mrs. Laurence G.
 Spurlock, H. N.
 Strange, Allan T.
 Strange, Robert
 Strange, Robert
 Strong, Ludlow P.
 Taylor, J. Allan
 Taylor, Walker, III
 Taylor, Mrs. Walker
 Theobald, C. F.
 Thomas, George G.
 Thomas, William George
 Thorpe, W. B.
 Townes, Wm. Armistead
 VanBokkelen, A. H.
 Waddell, A. M.
 Walker, William L.
 Ward, Edward L.
 Willetts, Frederick
 Willetts, Frederick, Jr.
 Willetts, Mrs. Frederick, Jr.
 Williams, Charles T.
 Williams, Robert M., Jr.
 Williams, William A.
 Willis, Arthur Rexford
 Woodbury, L. E.
 Wright, Joshua Grainger
 Wright, Thomas H.
 Wright, Thomas H.
 Wright, Thomas H., Jr.
 Wright, William A.
 Yopp, W. H.

CHAPTER 9

THE EXTANT RECORDS OF SUBSCRIBERS TO ST. JAMES, 1811-1816

Anderson, Alex	1811, 1812, 1814, 1815
Anderson, William	1811, 1815
Arnold, A. B.	1815
Arnold, Isaac	1815
Baldwin, Simon	1815
Bazadier, Philip	1811-1815
Beale, Thomas S.	1814
Beecher, W.	1815
Bettencourt, Emanuel C.	1815
Bishop, Joseph	1815
Bridge, Edmund	1811-1814
Brouse(?), James W.	1815
Brown, Robert W.	1815
Burgwin, George	1811, 1812, 1814
Burgwin, John F.	1811-1816
Burr, Talcott	1815
Byrne(?), George	1815
Calhorda, John	1811, 1812, 1814
Callender, Thomas C.	1811-1815
Camack, David	1811-1814
Cameron, George	1812-1814
Campbell, Mrs.	1815
Campbell, Marsden	1811-1815
Campbell, William	1811-1815
Clitherall, George C.	1811, 1812, 1814
Cochran, Robert	1812, 1815
Cook, Hannah	1814
Cowan, John	1815
Cowan, Robert	1814
Cowan, Thomas	1811-1815
Cutlar, Lucy	1815
Davis, Thomas F.	1812, 1814-1816
deRosset, A. J.	1813-1815
Dick, William	1815
Dickson, James	1811-1816
Draughn, James H.	1815, 1816
Dudley, Christopher, Jr.	1811-1815
Eagles, Joseph	1815
Elfe, Thomas E.	1815

Flemming, James	1811-1814
Gabie, John M.	1811-1815
Garnier, John	1815
Gautier, Joseph R.	1811, 1812, 1814, 1815
Giles, William	1811-1814
Golden, Abraham	1815
Gorrie, John	1815
Green, James S.	1815
Green, Mary	1814
Hall, John	1811-1814
Halsey, William H.	1815
Harriss, Nehemiah	1811, 1812, 1814, 1815
Harriss, William	1814-1815
Hartman, Jacob	1813-1815
Hasell, William S.	1811-1815
Hatridge, Alexander	1813-1815
Henderson, James M.	1813-1815
Hill, Frederick J.	1815
Hill, John	1811-1814
Hill, Nathaniel	1811-1816
Hill, Thomas	1815
Hogg, James	1812-1814
Holmes, Gabriel	1814, 1815
Hooper, Archibald M.	1812-1816
Hooper, George	1814-1815
Hostler, Alexander	1811-1814
Hostler, Mary	1811, 1812, 1814
Jacobs, Joseph	1815
Jocelyn, Samuel R.	1811, 1812, 1814, 1815
Jones, John D.	1812, 1814
Jones, William W.	1811-1816
Kellogg, Joseph	1815
Kelly, Hanson	1811-1816
Kemp, William C.	1811-1814
Kenan, Owen	1815
Langdon, Samuel	1815
Laroque, James B.	1811, 1812, 1814
Lazarus, Aaron	1811, 1812, 1814, 1815
Levy, Jacob	1815
Lillington, A.	1815
Lloyd, Richard	1812, 1814, 1815
London, John	1811-1815
London, John R.	1812, 1814, 1815
Lord, Eliza	1814
Lord, Eliza, Jr.	1812
Lord, Eliza, Sr.	1813
Lord, John	1815, 1816
Lord, William C.	1812, 1815, 1816
MacAuslan, John	1811-1814

McCaleb, John	1812-1814
McColl, John	1811-1816
McIlhenny, James	1811-1814
McKay, Murdock	1813-1815
McKay, William	1815
McLaurin, _____	1815
McLeod, Donald	1815
McLeod, Donald R.	1815
McMillan, John	1815
McNeill, Archibald F.	1811-1816
McNeill, Daniel	1811, 1812, 1814
Marshall, James	1811-1814
Mason, James	1815, 1816
Meares, William B.	1815, 1816
Miller, D. M.	1815
Mitchell, Robert	1811, 1812, 1814
Mitchell, William	1811, 1812, 1814
Moore, Alexander D.	1813, 1816
Moore, Alfred	1815
Nichols, Caleb	1812-1815
Orme, James	1811, 1812, 1814, 1815
Paine, Hector	1814, 1815
Pickard, Francis	1811-1814
Poisson, Mrs.	1811-1814
Potts, S.	1813, 1814
Potts, William L.	1813, 1814
Quince, Parker	1815
Ramsey, John	1815
Rankin, Robert	1815
Reston, Thomas C.	1811-1815
Richardson, William	1811-1814
Sampson, Mary	1811, 1812, 1814, 1815
Scott, Andrew	1811, 1812, 1814
Scott, Robert	1811, 1812, 1814
Scott, Thomas G.	1815
Seaton, Samuel	1815
Shackelford, Mary	1811-1814
Slingsby, Isabella	1815
Smith, Ann	1811, 1812, 1814, 1815
Smith, David	1811-1816
Smith, D., Jr.	1815
Smith, Sophia G.	1814
Springs, John S.	1811-1814
Swann, Frederick	1815
Swift, Joseph G.	1812
Thams(?), C. L.	1815
Tillinghast, Christopher	1815
Toomer, John D.	1812-1816
Usher, James	1811, 1812, 1814

Vance, Mary	1814, 1815
Waddell, John	1815
Walker, Carleton	1811, 1812, 1814, 1816
Walker, James W.	1811, 1812, 1814, 1815
Walker, Magdalene M.	1811-1815
Ward, John H.	1815
Wilkins, John.	1811-1815
Wilkinson, William	1812-1814
Williams, John.	1811-1815
Wingate, Jesse	1811-1815
Wingate, William	1815, 1816
Winslow, Edward.	1811-1815
Wright, Charles J.	1815
Wright, Joshua G.	1811-1814
Wright, Susan	1815
Wright, Thomas	1811-1814

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

In 1825, St. James Church had 146 communicants, of which 20 were black. In 1834, there were 167 communicants; 1842, 214; 1852, 263; 1855, 290; 1860, 229; 1864, 307; 1875, 321; 1892, 485; 1920, 625; 1930, 676; 1946, 701; 1955, 754.

CHAPTER 10

EASTER CRUCIFERS AND PARENTS

- 1908 — J. Laurens Wright — Josie Whittaker and John Maffitt Wright
- 1909 — G. Latham Harriss — Frances Latham and W. Nehe-miah Harriss
- 1910 — Julian W. Morton — Blanche McKay and Thomas L. Morton
- 1911 — Charles Y. Bidgood — Minnie Young and Charles Bidgood
- 1912 — F. Heiskell Gouverneur — M. Fairfax Davis and M. F. H. Gouverneur
- 1913 — Robert F. Taylor — May French and J. Allan Taylor
- 1914 — Andrew H. Harriss, Jr. — Mary Bolles and Andrew Howell Harriss
- 1915 — Louis deR. MacMillan — Katharine deRosset and Wm. D. MacMillan
- 1916 — William H. Milton, Jr. — Virginia Epps and William H. Milton
- 1917 — John H. Hardin, Jr. — Mary Brooks and John Haywood Hardin
- 1918 — Eugene B. Hardin — Mary Brooks and John Haywood Hardin
- 1919 — Thomas H. Wright II — Josie Whittaker and John Maffitt Wright
- 1920 — Frederick W. Dick, Jr. — Betty deRosset and Frederick W. Dick
- 1921 — L. Lansdale Sparrow — Gertrude Slaughter and Robert K. Sparrow
- 1922 — John L. Cantwell — Sarah Catlett and Paul Cantwell
- 1923 — Peter Browne Ruffin — Annie Gray Nash and Allen Jones Ruffin
- 1924 — R. Francis Walker, Jr. — Susan Perryclear and Richard F. Walker
- 1925 — R. Aubrey Parsley, Jr. — Elizabeth Payne and R. Aubrey Parsley
- 1926 — John C. Grainger — Jean Cameron and Charles S. Grainger
- 1927 — William M. Atkinson, Jr. — Mary Calder and William M. Atkinson
- 1928 — Henry M. Emerson — Agnes McQueen and William Parsley Emerson

- 1929 — George Davis MacRae — Cary Davis and Donald MacRae
- 1930 — William H. Rankin — Kate Harlow and Robert G. Rankin
- 1931 — David H. Scott, Jr. — Isabel Smallbones and David Scott
- 1932 — Adair M. McKoy, Jr. — Katie Grainger and Adair McKoy
- 1933 — Emmett H. Durham — Nellie Savage and James H. Durham
- 1934 — William G. Broadfoot, Jr. — Elizabeth Winston and William G. Broadfoot
- 1935 — Winston Broadfoot — Elizabeth Winston and William G. Broadfoot
- 1936 — Wm. O. S. Sutherland, Jr. — Mary Owen Green and Wm. O. S. Sutherland
- 1937 — Robert Strange, Jr. — Mary Taylor and Robert Strange
- 1938 — Harrison Matthews Symmes, Jr. — Mary Harriss and Harrison M. Symmes
- 1939 — Robert E. Calder, Jr. — Sue Calder and Robert E. Calder
- 1940 — James Borden Lynch — Jane I. Green and Herbert A. Lynch
- 1941 — Walker Taylor III — Fannie Grainger and Walker Taylor, Jr.
- 1942 — Edward Wootten — Ruth James & Edward Y. Wootten
- 1943 — Joseph A. Glover — Gladys Alexander and Mortimer W. Glover
- 1944 — George T. Clark, Jr. — Sarah Caldwell and George Thomas Clark
- 1945 — James E. McClary, Jr. — _____ and James E. McClary
- 1946 — Raymond H. Holland, Jr. — Carolyn Northrop and Raymond H. Holland
- 1947 — Emsley A. Laney, Jr. — Katherine Redfern and Emsley A. Laney
- 1948 — Homer B. Glover — Gladys Alexander and Mortimer W. Glover
- 1948 — Norman L. George, Jr. — Inez Glover and Norman L. George
- 1949 — Eugene C. Hicks III — Josie Wright and Eugene C. Hicks, Jr.
- 1950 — Lloyd C. Brinkley — Ida Lee Crocker and Edwin T. Brinkley
- 1951 — Irving T. Glover — Gladys Alexander and Mortimer W. Glover
- 1952 — James M. Morgan, Jr. — Corabel Beaman and James M. Morgan
- 1953 — Charles M. Hicks — Josie Wright and Eugene C. Hicks, Jr.

- 1954 — Neill M. Laney — Katherine Redfern and Emsley A. Laney
1955 — Stephen Prevost — Frances Caldwell and Stephen Prevost
1956 — Eugene B. Woodbury — Jane Beery and Louie E. Woodbury, Jr.
1957 — Andrew J. Harriss — Jane Lynch & Andrew J. Harriss
1958 — Harry S. Mustard — Elizabeth Williams Mustard
1959 — Henry Beaman Morgan — Corabel and James Malcolm Morgan
1960 — Clem Morton Ward — Clyde Morton and Clement Manley Ward
1961 — Francis Leonidas Joyner, Jr. — Jane Lynch Harriss (stepmother) and Francis Leonidas Joyner
1962 — William Holladay Thornton, Jr. — Frances Taylor and William H. Thornton
1963 — George Deanes Gornto — Catherine Tyson and George Gornto
1964 — Andrew Symmes — Jean Deck and Andrew H. Symmes
1965 — Thomas L. Crittenden, Jr. — Elizabeth Swain and Thomas L. Crittenden
1966 — Frederick Willetts III — Helen Messick and Frederick Willetts, Jr.
1967 — Murdock McRae Dunn, Jr. — Ann Burr and Murdock McRae Dunn
1968 — Charles T. Williams, Jr. — Margaret Gould and Charles T. Williams
1969 — William N. Mason — Mary McLean and Lockert B. Mason
1970 — Andrew Harriss Weathersbee — Dorothy Harriss and Ransey Weathersbee
1971 — Arthur H. Symmes — Margaret Lonigan and Courtland Symmes
1972 — John N. Alexius III — Frances Warren and John Nelson Alexius, Jr.
1973 — Jay G. Jordan — Sarah Lang and Edwin C. Jordan
1974 — H. Russell Clark, Jr. — Mary Penton and Howard Russell Clark
1975 — Raymond Hardy Holland III — Virginia Harriss and Raymond H. Holland, Jr.
1976 — Henry S. Fonvielle — Margaret Faw & W. A. Fonvielle, Jr.
1977 — Michael Francis Symmes — Margaret Lonigan and Courtland Symmes
1978 — Michael Edward Cooper — Bonnie Brown and Lenox Gore Cooper, Jr.
1979 — Neill McCauley Laney — Patricia Sawyer and Neill McCauley Laney

[List compiled by Frances Dunn Penton (Mrs. Daniel)]

CHAPTER 11

MEMORIAL PLAQUES IN ST. JAMES CHURCH

Bishop Thomas Atkinson: "Beneath this cross lies the body of Bishop Thomas Atkinson, 1807-1881" (engraved on cross in the chancel floor). Also a tablet on the chancel wall has: Rt. Rev. Thomas Atkinson, D.D., L.L.D., 3rd Bishop of North Carolina, born Mansfield, Dinwiddie Co., Va. 6 August 1807, consecrated Bishop of N.C. 17 October 1853, died 4 January 1881. Josepha Gwinn Atkinson, his wife, died 7 December 1887 and is buried beside him.

Preston Louis Bridgers, 12 Nov. 1856 - 2 Oct. 1902 (choir stall)

Robert Rufus Bridgers, 1 Dec. 1854 - 7 Aug. 1901 (choir stall)

Fannie D. Burbank (procession cross)

Nunnie Burr, died 17 Jan. 1890 (retable cross)

Armand J. deRosset, M.D., 1807-1897 (Bishop's Chair)

deRosset Family: Four generations of the deRosset family, founders, wardens and vestrymen of St. James Church: Armand John deRosset, M.D. 1695-1760; Louis Henry deRosset 1722-1786; Moses John deRosset 1726-1767; Armand John deRosset, M.D. 1767-1859; Armand John deRosset, M.D. 1807-1897.

Pembroke Jones - Pew No. 49: This pew is set aside by the vestry pursuant to the will of the late Pembroke Jones for the use of visitors who worship with us as a perpetual memorial to the aunt who reared him and was known by him as a mother, Mrs. Alice H. Dickinson, A.D. 1919.

The Rev. Robert Brent Drane, D.D., for 25 years the Rector of this parish, "fell at his post during the pestilence of 1862," 9 Jan. 1800 - 14 Oct. 1862.

The Rev. Adam Empie 1785-1860, Chaplain of West Point, President of William & Mary College, Rector of Bruton Parish, Va. and of St. James Church, Richmond, Va. and twice rector of this church which organization he raised from 11 communicants to the largest in the Diocese.

Giles Pew No. 33: William Giles, vestryman, 1812-1885; William Giles, vestryman, 1773-1814; Clayton Giles, Senior Warden, 1844-1917.

John Victor Grainger, Senior Warden, lights in the church given in his memory by his wife Katie Reston Grainger.

Henry Gould Latimer — Place on the altar with inscription: "Presented to St. James Church by Henry Gould Latimer A.D. 1893."

William Latimer, by his wife Margaret Iredell Latimer, 1862-1956.

Zebulon Latimer and Elizabeth Savage Latimer, who with their children occupied this pew from 1843-1881. Pew No. 39.

Lord: 1839-1940. Pew No. 36.

Frederick J. Lord: "In loving memory of those who have gone before by those who are to follow of the family of Frederick J. Lord" (Altar Rail).

Augustus Foster Lyde, Deacon, member St. James, born Wilmington 4 Feb. 1813, died Philadelphia 19 Nov. 1834. First Episcopal Missionary assigned to work in China. Tablet erected by St. James Chapter of the Woman's Auxiliary 1959.

James Borden Lynch II, First Lieutenant U. S. Army Air Force, Killed in action in Italy, 6 Jan. 1924 - 9 Feb. 1945.

Douglas Hart McKoy, A.E.F., 7 July 1894 - 21 Aug. 1925.

Donald MacRae (Pew No. 41)

Walter Rumsey Marvin: "The restoration of this historic doorway (church entrance) a gift in memory of Walter Rumsey Marvin, 1967."

The Rev. William Hammond Milton, D.D., Rector of this parish 1909-1936, Rector Emeritus 1936-1946, Member Diocesan Executive Council, General Convention 1907-1934, National Council 1920-1937, First Executive Secretary Field Department of the National Church, Builder, Leader, Friend; 17 Oct. 1868 - 26 June 1946.

Eliza Munds 1874-1956 (Altar Vases)

Joel Williams Murchison 1853-1926 & Loulie Atkinson Murchison 1860-1922, given by Fannie Murchison Curtis and Jennie Atkinson Murchison. (The Chapel)

William Gemmell Robertson, Organist and choir master of this parish 1914-1963.

Bishop Robert Strange: "Beneath this Altar lies the body of Bishop Strange, 1857-1914" (Cross in the Chancel Floor)

William Bennett Thorpe 1873-1953 & Margaret Meares Thorpe 1874-1969.

Lt. Col. John Walker, born Northumberland Co., England 10 Dec. 1743 - 1815. A leader in the Cape Fear section during the Revolution. Aide to General George Washington.

Mary W. Walker and Eliza J. Cowan "in loving memory of our Mothers Mary W. Walker and Eliza J. Cowan and their loved one in Paradise, Easter 1903."

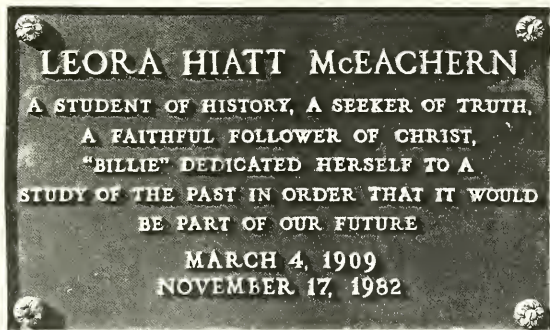
Thomas D. and Mary Walker, 1846 (Pew No. 37).

Bishop A. A. Watson, D.D. 21 Aug. 1818 - 21 Apr. 1905, Rector of this parish for 20 years 1863-1883, first Bishop of East Carolina from its organization Apr. 1884, Chaplain of 2nd N.C. Infantry C.S.A.

Joseph H. Watters 1852-1921 (Pew No. 68).

Frank Lenox Williams 28 Aug. 1889 - 18 Oct. 1918, 30th A.E.F.

Williams (Pew No. 57): John Williams 3 Jan. 1778 - 29 June 1855, William Augustus Williams 8 Feb. 1809 - 15 Sept. 1880, William Arthur Williams 25 June 1850 - 10 Oct. 1917.



Memorial Plaque to Leora Hiatt McEachern, Archivist of St. James Parish.

INDEX

- Adams, E. Clark 67
 Alderman, A. G. 49
 Alexius, Mrs. Frances Warren ... 75
 John Nelson, Jr. 75
 John Nelson, III 75
 Alligood, Anson 49,67
 Ancrum, J. 7
 Anderson, Alex 69
 Miss Belle 36,37
 James 67
 William 69
 Andrews, Leon 32
 Appleberry, Cecil M. 37,38
 Aranow, Robert H. 67
 Architects 8,10,11,13,14,19,21-23
 Arnold, A. B. 69
 Arnold, Isaac 69
 Art Exhibition 31
 Ashe, J. 7
 Ashe, John 2
 Ashe, John Baptista 1
 Ashe, W. I. 7
 Atkinson, John W. 13,67
 Mrs. Josepha Gwinn...58,77
 Mrs. Mary Calder 73
 Rt.Rev. Thomas .. 9,45,47,
 58,66,77
 William 38
 William M. 67
 William M., Jr. 73
 William M., Sr. 73
 Atlantic Coast Line Railroad ... 22

 Bailey, Ed 36
 Baldwin, Simon 69
 Ballard, Jethro 67
 Ballard, McKim & Sawyer ... 23(2)
 Barber, D. D. 49(2)
 Barfield, William 67
 Barker, Richard E. 67
 Barnett (Barrett), Rev. John 52
 Barrett, Miss Elizabeth 52
 Bazadier, Philip 69
 Beale, Thomas S. 69
 Bear, Sigmund A. 67
 Beecher, W. 69
 Beery, Eugene 36
 Belden, Mrs. Arthur 42
 Bellamy, Mrs. Emmett 42
 Hargrove 19
 Mrs. Hargrove 42
 Robert R. 19
 Bettencourt, Emanuel C. 69
 Bicentennial, U.S. 23,33
 Bidgood, Charles 73
 Mrs. Charles W. 37
 Charles Y. 73
 Mrs. Minnie Young 73
 Bishop, Elizabeth 26
 Joseph 69
 Bissette, Samuel D. 32
 Blackmore, Mr. 6
 Black River 53
 Blacks 4,56,72
 Blake, Joseph 1
 T. 7
 Blaney, Benjamin 29
 Mrs. Margaret 29
 Blanning, H. 5
 Blyth, James 7
 Boatwright, Alice London 42
 J. H. 59,67
 J. L. 67
 Swift Miller--15,49,61,67
 Bolles Memorial Fund 19
 Boney, Leslie N. 21,22
 Bradley, C. W. 67
 Bridge, Edmund 69
 Bridgers, Miss Emily 13,17
 Memorial Fund 19
 Mrs. 11
 Preston Louis 77
 Mrs. Preston Louis 36
 Robert Rufus 11,77
 Bridgman, John 67
 Brinkley, Edwin T. 74
 Mrs. Edwin T. (Ida Lee)...42
 Mrs. Ida Lee Crocker .. 74
 Lloyd C. 74
 British Occupation 3,29
 Broadfoot, Mrs. Eliz. Winston . 74(2)
 Mrs. W. G. 33,65,67
 William G., Jr. 74
 William G., Sr. 74(2)
 Winston 74
 Brotherhood of St. Andrew 61
 Brouse(?), James W. 69
 Brown, John Potts 67
 Robert W. 69
 Thomas W. 67
 Brunswick, Town of....2(2),21,51,52(2)
 Bugnion, R. 5
 Bunting, Ebenezer 3,7
 T. 67
 W. S. 19

Burbank, Fannie D.	77	Church Centennial	17,63
Burgwin, George	69	Church Choir	35-39,59
John	7	Church Clock	25,26
John F.	69	Church Description	3,4
Burgwin-Wright House	8	Church House	21,22
Burke, Rev. John	56	Church Library	56
Burr, Abraham	35	Church Lot	1,8,29
Henry A.	67	Church Membership	72
James G.	67	Church of England	1
Nunnie	77	Church of the Ascension	49
Talcott	69	Church of The Good Shepherd	47-
W. A.	35	50,58	
Burris, James H.	49(2)	Church Organ	35-39
Byrne(?), George	69	Church Rectory	56
Cairns, Rev. William Douglas ..	55,56	Church Tower	25,26
Calder, Milton	67	Church Vandalized	3,9,10
Rob.	36	Citchett, Louise (Mrs. Geo.)	42
Robert Edward	67	Civil Defense	22
Robert Edward, Jr.	74	Civil War	9
Robert Edward, Sr.	74	Clark, George T.	67
Mrs. Sue	74	George Thomas, Jr.	74
William	49,67	George Thomas, Sr.	74
Calhorda, John	69	H. Russell	67
Callendar, Elisha	29	H. Russell, Jr.	75
Thomas	30,67	Howard Russell, Sr.	75
Thomas C.	69	Mrs. Mary Penton	75
Camack, David	69	Mr.	32
Cameron, George	69	Mrs. Sarah Caldwell	74
Campbell, John	7	Clayton, F.	7
L.	6	Clemmons, Mrs. Paul	43
Mrs.	69	Clergy	1
Marsden	69	Clitherall, George C.	69
Will	6	Cobb, Louise (Mrs. T. W.)	43
William	69	Cobham, Doct.	7
Camp Davis	19	Cochran, Robert	67,69
Cannon, Rev. John B.	48	Colonial Dames of N.C.	32
Cantwell, John L.	73	Communion Plate	1
Miss Leonora	42	Confederate States of America ..	57
Paul	73	Connette, Mrs. Ed.	43
Mrs. Sarah Catlett	73	Cook, Hannah	69
Cape Fear Area	1	Rev. Robert Daniell	65
Capers, Rt.Rev. Ellison	61	Cooper, Miss Ada	36
Cardwell, Guy A.	67	Mrs. Bonnie Brown	75
Carmichael, Rev.	48	C. H.	36
Carpenter, Edwin R.	23	Lenox Gore, Jr.	67,75
Carr, Mrs. James D.	42	Michael Edward	75
Chadbourne, Charles C.	67	Corbin, Mrs.	7
Mr.	14	Courthouse, County	2,26,51
Charles Town, S.C.	1	Courts, Circuit	41
Charter, St. James'	53	Cowan, Eliza J.	79
Cheshire, Rt.Rev. Joseph Blount ..	61	John	69
Children's Chapel	23,42	M.	7
Chinese Mission	56	Mrs.	41
Chotwell, John	5	R. H.	67
Church Archives	21,23	Robert	69
Church Banners	23	Thomas	69
Church Bell	25,26	Cox, Mrs. Tench	13
Church Building	1-24,25-27	Craft, James Charles	36

- Cranmer, Rev. J. B. 49
 John B. 67
 Mrs. 42
 Crittenden, Mrs. Eliz. Swain 75
 Thomas L., Jr. 75
 Thomas L., Jr. 75
 Cronly, Robert D. 67
 Cunningham, Thomas. 7
 Curtis, Mrs. Ashley 23
 Fannie Murchison 78
 Louis L. 36
 Cushing, Mrs. Mary 35
 Cutlar, Lucy 69
- Dahl, C. H. 8
 Darden, Mr. 37
 Darst, Rt.Rev. T. C. 17,49,63,66
 David, D. 7
 Davis, Carl H. 67
 George 67
 Jefferson 9
 Jehu 2
 John 26
 Mary Polk 42
 Mrs. N. N. 19
 Mrs. Sarah Isabell 56
 Thomas F. 69
 Thomas F., Sr. 56
 Rev. Thomas Fred'k 56
 W. W. 67
 Dawson, James 67
 Mrs. 47
 Deal, W. 5
 DeBoss, Anthony 5
 Delano, Jean Harriss 42
 Denck, Mr. 35
 deRosset, 6
 Miss Annie B. 36
 Armand John. 8,9,13,
 47,67,69
 Armand John, Jr. 45,67
 Armand John, M.D. 77
 Armand John, Sr. 67
 Mrs. Armand John, Sr. 67
 Mrs. Armand John 13
 Catharine 41
 E. J. 42
 Mrs. Eliza J. 47
 E. M. J. 6
 family 77
 Jane D., Memorial Fund. 37
 Lewis 1,3,6
 Louis Henry 77
 Memorial Fund 19,49
 Moses John 77
 Thomas 36
 William L. 13(2),52,67
 William L., Jr. 41
- Dick, Mrs. Betty deRosset. 73
 Frederick W., Jr. 73
 Frederick W., Sr. 73
 William 69
 Dickinson, Alice H. 42,77
 Platt Ketchum .. 26,30,67
 Dickson, James 69
 Diocese Property 21
 Dobbs, Gov. Arthur 52
 Dols, Rev. Wm. Ludwig, Jr. 65
 Done, 7
 Drane, Mrs. Augusta Endicot 30
 Rev. R. B. 8,45,56-58,77
 Rev. Robert Brent, Jr. 58
 Draughn, James H. 69
 Dry, Sarah 6
 William 6
 Dubois, John 3(3)
 Mrs. 6
 Dudley, Christopher, Jr. 69
 Edward B. 30
 Henry 10(2)
 Duncan, Alexander 2,3,5
 Dunn, Mrs. Ann Burr 75
 John Oliver 67
 Murdock McRae, Jr. 75
 Murdock McRae, Sr. 75
 Durham, Emmett H. 74
 James H. 74
 Mrs. Nellie Savage 74
 Durrant, Rev. Harry Lester .. 48,49
- Eagles, Joseph 69
 Miss Sarah Isabell 56
 Easter Sunrise Carols 26,58
 "ECCE HOMO" 2
 Elebash, Rev. Hunley 65
 Elfe, Thomas E. 69
 Elliott, George Blow 13,67
 Mabel Green 13
 Mr. 37
 Ellis, Mrs. Leland (Diane) 44
 Emerson, Mrs. Agnes McQueen .. 73
 Henry M. 73
 Horace M. 67
 Mrs. Horace 42
 Wm. Parsley 73
 Empie, Mrs. Adam 55
 Rev. Dr. Adam 53-55,77
 "English Church" 1
 Erbin, Henry, & Sons 36
 Evans, William 29
- Fall-out Shelter 22
 Faris, William 1,2,6
 Farrow, Margaret 38(2)
 Fechtig, Miss Allie Morris 44,65
 Federal Occupation 9

Fenly, Green	37	Gornto, George Deanes	75
Mrs. Green	37	Gorrie, John	70
Fensel, Mrs. Peter	33	Gouverneur, F. Heiskell	73
Fire Alarm Bell	26	Mrs. M. F. Davis ...	73
Fire of 1819, Wilmington	54	M. F. H.	61,73
Fires	13,22,36	Graham, Charles P.	67
Fisher, Paul	67	Frederick B.	67
Flagg, Rev. Dr. Edward O.	59	Grainger, Caleb	7
Flanner, Carolina	21	Charles S.	73
Flavell, William	1	Mrs. Jean Cameron ...	73
Fleming, Daniel A.	67	John C.	73
Flemming, James	70	J. Victor	61,67,78
Fonvielle, Henry S.	75	Mrs. J. Victor	19
Mrs. Margaret Faw ..	67,75	Mrs. Katie Reston	78
W. A., Jr.	75	Grange, John	1
Forster, Capt.	7	Graveyard	12,14,29-33
Fort Fisher	9,22	Green, Charles F., Jr.	67
"Fortuna," Spanish ship	2	James S.	67,70
Fox, James C.	67	Mary	70
Rachel (Mrs. Jared)	23	Samuel	59
Fulk, R. V.	67	William	59
Gabie, John M.	70	Rev. Wm. Mercer ...	55,58,59
Galleries, Church	4,8	Gregg, Frederick	3(2),6
Gammell, J.	35	Gregory, J. A.	49
Gammon, Marjorie	42	James	7
Gardner, Rev. Stephen	63	Grigg, Milton	22
Garnier, John	70	Grimsley, Paul	67
Gautier, Joseph R.	70	Groover, Margaret	42
Geekie, J.	5	Gwathmey, Richard B.	67
Gemmell, Mrs. John	43	Mrs. Richard B.	67
General Assembly	1	Halcott, J.B.	11
George, Mrs. Inex Glover	74	Hall, John	70
Norman L., Jr.	74	T.	7
Norman L., Sr.	74	Halling, Rev. Solomon	53
Gibble, Rev. J. Benners ..	47,48(3),49	Halsey, William H.	70
Gibbons, Margaret	37	Hamilton, H. deRoulhac	37
Giles, Clayton	46,61,67,77	Hamme, Fred.	36
Clayton, Jr.	46	Hammond, Mrs. Phil	43
Mrs. Lucy Wright	38	Hanby, John H.	13
William	67,70,77	Hane, Marianna	43
William B.	46(2),67	Hanson, Abijah	4
Gilmore, Mr.	36	Hardin, Eugene B.	73
Glazier, Rev. Harvey W.	49	Eugene, Jr.	65,67
Glover, Mrs. Gladys Alex.	74(3)	John Haywood	67,73(2)
Homer B.	74	John Haywood, Jr.	73
Irving T.	74	Mrs. Mary Brooks	73(2)
Joseph A.	74	Harker, William	48
Rev. Mortimer Worth	17,	Harnett, Cornelius	1,3,6,31
63-65,74,74(3)		Harrill, F. B.	37
Mrs. Mortimer W.	64,65	Harris, Mrs. Anne deRosset	37
Mortimer W., Jr.	64	Catharine	41
Godfrey, Thomas	32	Charlsie (Mrs. James)	38
Godley, Robert B.	67	James P.	52
Mrs. Robert	43	Mrs. Wm. L. (Vivian)	44
Golden, Abraham	70	Harriss, Andrew J.	75
Gore, Willie	36	Andrew, Jr.	52,67,73
Gornto, Mrs. Catherine Tyson ...	75	Mrs. A., Jr. (Louise)	44
George	75	Andrew Howell, Sr.	73

- Harriss, Miss Esther 44
 Mrs. Frances Latham ... 73
 G. Latham 73
 Mrs. Jane Lynch 19,75
 Mrs. Mary Bolles 73
 Meares 67
 Nehemiah 29,70
 William 70
 W. Nehemiah 29,67,73
 Hart, Miss 37
 Hartman, Jacob 70
 Hasell, W. 7
 W. S. 67
 William S. 70
 Hatridge, Alexander 70
 Haulover 1
 Hawley, General 9
 Henderson, James M. 70
 Thomas 5
 Herlbert, George 48
 Hermitage Plantation 51
 Heron, B. 6
 Hicks, Charles M. 67,74
 Eugene C., Jr. 67,74(2)
 Eugene C., III 74
 Mrs. Josie Wright 74(2)
 Higgins, Michael 1
 Highsmith, Mrs. J. H. (Eliz.) ... 44
 Hill, Frederick J. 70
 John 70
 John H. 12,31
 Mrs. Mary Ann 31
 Nathaniel 29,67,70
 Thomas 70
 Hillier, R. 7
 Historic District Commission ... 23
 Historic Wilmington Found. 23
 Hogg, James 7
 Mr. 7
 Hoggard, Dr. John T. 23,38
 Hogue, Cyrus D., Jr. 67
 Rev. Richard Wallace ... 61
 Holbrook, George H. 26
 Holden, A. S. 36
 Alex S. 37
 Holland, Mrs. Carolyn Northrop . 74
 Raymond, Jr. 67,74,75
 Raymond, Sr. 74
 Raymond Hardy, III 75
 Mrs. Raymond, Jr. ... 23,44
 Mrs. Virginia Harriss .. 75
 Holmes, Gabriel 31,70
 Mrs. Mildred 31
 Mrs. Sallie M. 13
 Holt, Obediah 7
 Hooks & Hastings 35
 Hooper, Archibald M. 70
 George 70
 Hooper, Joseph Ward 67
 William 7
 Horne, Miss Mattie 36
 Horsfield, Rev. F. D. 61
 Hostler, Alexander 70
 Mary 70
 Howard, Tilghman 48
 Howe, Robert 6
 Howell, Claude 40
 Hughes, John 48
 J. Winder 67
 Humphrey, Nathan W. 68
 Hyrne, Edward 1
 Innes Academy 53,55
 Innes, Hon. James 53
 Ives, Rt. Rev. Levi Sillman 8,56
 Jacobs, Joseph 29,70
 Jardine, George 35
 Jeneta, S. 35
 Jewett, Robert D. 68
 Stephen 35
 Jocelyn, Samuel R. 70
 Johnson, Denise M. 43
 Mr. 37
 Jones, John D. 70
 Marmaduke 2
 Pembroke 46,77
 Mrs. Sarah G. 46
 William W. 70
 Jordan, Edwin C. 75
 Jay G. 75
 Mrs. Sarah Lang 75
 Lt. Col. W. J. 9
 Joyner, Francis Leonidas, Jr. ... 75
 Francis Leonidas, Sr. ... 75
 Mrs. Jane Lynch Harriss 75
 Judd, Rev. M. Bethel 55
 Junior Altar Guild 42
 Kassens, William D., Jr. 68
 Keeler, Mr. 55
 Kellogg, Joseph 70
 Kelly, Hanson 68,70
 Kemp, William C. 70
 Kenan Foundation 23,38
 Kenan Fund 33
 Kenan, Mrs. Graham 15,16
 James 38
 Mrs. James 15
 Owen 70
 Sarah Graham 23
 T. 7
 Kidder, George E. 68
 Kindergarten 42
 King, Mrs. Jean 42
 Knight, John 36
 Krafft, W. G. W. 37

Ladies Working Society . . .	8,41,45,47	Lucas, J. B.	26
Lamb, J. & R.	13	Lumb, George	68
Lane, Levin	68	Lyde, Rev. Aug. Foster . . .	22,56,78
Laney, Emsley A.	21,65,68	Lynch, Herbert A.	74
Emsley A., Jr.	74	James Borden	19,74
Emsley A., Sr.	74,75	James Borden, III.	78
Mrs. E. (Katherine) . . .	42,44	Mrs. Jane I. Green	74
Mrs. K. Redfern	74,75	Robert	68
Neill McCauley	68,75(2)	Mrs. T. K.	21
Mrs. Patricia Sawyer . . .	75	Virginia (Mrs. T. K.) . . .	42
Langdon, Samuel	70	Lyon, John	6
Lapierre, Rev. John	51		
Laroque, James B.	70	Macauslan, John	70
Latimer, Mrs. Eliz. Savage . .	78	Maclaine, Archibald	7
Henry Gould	12,78	Macmillan, Mrs. H. J. . . .	21,44,43(2)
Mrs. Margaret Iredell . .	78	Mrs. Kat. deR.	42,73
William	78	Louis deR.	73
Mrs. William	61	William D.	73
Zebulon	68,78	William D., Jr.	68
Latta, Mrs. W. L.	36	Macrae, Mrs. Cary Davis . . .	74
Lawrence, Cecelia	47	Donald	74,78
Lawther, Mildred (Mrs. Thomas)	42	George Davis	74
Lazarus, Aaron	70	House	21,22
Lebanon Chapel	46,56	Hugh, II	68
Lee, Miss Annie	36	Mrs. Hugh, II	44
Leslie, Alex.	48	Miss Mary S.	48
Levy, Jacob	70	Monimia	21
Lewis, Rev. William H.	59	Mallett, Mrs. George Hooper .	19
Lillington, A.	70	Marsden, Rev. Richard	51
Lincoln, Abraham	9,10	Marshall, James	71
Lippitt, D. H.	68	Samuel	5
Jeremiah	68	Marsteller, Louis H.	68
Memorial Fund	19	Martin, Alfred	68
Mrs.	41	Miss Lola	36
Room	22	Marvin, Mrs. Walker	38
W. H.	68	Walter Rumsey	78
Little River	1	Mrs. Walter (Lucile) . . .	42,44
Lloyd, Richard	70	Marye, R. W.	68
London, Ann	41	Mason, Caleb	7
Miss F. M.	41	James	71
John	7,70	Lockert B.	68,75
John R.	68,70	Mrs. Mary McLean	75
Sarah E.	41	William N.	75
Long Creek	53	Mathews, Mrs.	43
Lord, Miss Cammie	36,42	Maultsby, T.	7
Eliza	70	Maunder, John	31
Elizabeth	41	McAllister, J. C.	49
Eliza H.	42	McBee, Silas	12,13(2)
Eliza, Jr.	70	McCaleb, John	71
Eliza, Sr.	70	McClary, James E., Jr.	74
Family	78	James E., Sr.	74
Frederick J.	78	McColl, John	71
J. E. W.	37	McCord, Mr.	37
John	70	McDonnel, John	7
Miss Mary C.	59	McDowell, Rev. John	52
Mrs. William	41	McEachern, Mrs. Edward M. .	79
William C.	8,68,70	McEachern, L. H. (Mrs. Ed.) .	23
Lotteries	2,52	McIlhenny, James	71

- McKay, Murdock** 71
 William 71
McKim, Herbert 68
McKoy, Adair M., Jr. & Sr. 74
 Douglas Hart 78
 Miss Elizabeth 3,21
 James H. 19
 Mrs. Katie Grainger 21,74
McLaurin, _____ 71
McLeod, Donald R. 71
McMillan, John 71
McNeill, Archibald F. 71
 Daniel 71
McRae, John 68
McRee, Griffith J. 68
 J. F. 68
Meares, Mrs. Gaston 13
 Kate deRosset 14,36,42
 Thomas D. 61,68
 William B. 71
Meier, Frank 31
Memorial Garden 43
Merrick, E. T. & J. 7
Metts, E. A. 68
 Mrs. Edwin A. 19
 James I. 68
 J. V. B. 36
 John VanB. 37,68
Miller, D. M. 71
 James T. 68
Milton Hall 14,22,64
Milton Memorial Fund 19
Milton, Mrs. Virginia Epps 73
 Rev. Wm. Hammond . . 13,17,
 61,62,63,78
 Wm. Hammond, Jr. 73
 Wm. Hammond, Sr. 73
Mitchell, Robert 71
 William 71
Moir, Rev. James 51
Moore, Alexander D. 71
 Alfred 71
 Miss Carrie T. 19
 George 7
 J. 7
 M. 6
 Margaret Y. 42,43
 Col. Maurice 1
 Nathaniel 1
 Roger 1
Moran, James 7
Morgan, Mrs. Corabel Beaman 74,75
 Henry Beaman 75
 James Malcolm 75
 James M., Jr. 74
 James M., Sr. 74
Morriss, Charlie 36
Morton, Mrs. Blanche McKay 73
Morton, Mrs. Hugh (Julia) 44
 Julian W. 73
 Thomas L. 73
Mott, Rev. T. S. Webb 55
Mouat, W. 7
Mt. Lebanon Chapel 46
Munds, Eliza 78
 Elsa 42
 Memorial Fund 19
 Rev. Wm. Capers 17
Munson, Edward H. 36(3),37
Murchison-Curtis Mem. Chapel 23
Murchison, David, Jr. 68
 Mrs. David, Jr. 68
 Miss Jennie 21
 Jennie Atkinson 78
 Joel Williams 78
 John, II 68
 John R. 68
 J. W. 68
 Loulie Atkinson 78
Murray, M. 6
 Margaret 43
Museum, County 23
Music 35-39
Mustard, Harry S. 75
 Mrs. Eliz. Williams 75
Myers, Miss Carrie 36
 Charles 46
 Cornelius 68
 Ethel 42
 Mr. 37
Nash, Miss Margaret 37
Nelson, John 26
New River 1
Newton, Art 40
 C. P. 49
 Town of 1
Nichols, Caleb 71
Niven, Maurice 7
Nixon, Nicholas N. 68
 Richard 1
Noe, Rev. Thomas P. 49(3)
Norris, John S. 8
North Carolina Historical
 Commission 55
Nursery, Day 47
Oakdale Cemetery 30,31
Oldfields, T. 7
Orme, James 71
 Mary 41
Ormond, Lewis 21,68
Orr, Thomas 7
Orrell, Lewis 36
 Norwood 36
Paine, Hector 71
 John 2

Parishes	1	Robeson, Catharine	41
Parker, John W.	23	John	7
Parsley, Mrs. Elizabeth Payne ...	73	Rocky Point	53
R. Aubrey, Jr.	73	Rodgers, H. E.	68
R. Aubrey, Sr.	73	Rodman, Mrs. W. B., IV (Mary Louise)	44
Patterson, Rev. George	45	Rorison, Harmon C.	68
Payne, Miss Faie W.	36	Ross, A.	5
Pearson, Samuel	36	Mrs. Frank (Lina)	44
Penton, Mrs. D. (Frances)	44,75	Routledge, William	6
Daniel	19,68	Rowan, D. A.	49
Perdew, Mrs. W. (Margaret)	44	M.	7
Peschau, George L.	68	Rountree, George	68
Pews	1,4,10	Ruffin, Allen Jones	73
Phillips, Miss Susan A.	55	Mrs. Annie Gray Nash ...	73
Pickard, Francis	71	Peter Browne	19,21,68,73
Pike, William	29	Rutherford, T.	6
Player, L.	5	St. Agnes Guild	42
Richard	7	St. Cecelia Chapter	42
Pleasants, Alban	36	St. Elizabeth's Chapter	42
Poezolt, Harry	36	St. James Brotherhood	48
Poisson, Louis J.	68	St. James Chapter	42
Mrs. L. J. (Gethyn) .	43,44,71	St. James Home	47,48,58
Porter, John	1	St. James Mission	47,48
Post, James F.	13	St. James Society for Parochial Work	41
Potter, Mrs. Marian	46	St. John's Episcopal Church	10,45,57
Potts, S.	71	St. Johns, Howard	36
William L.	71	St. John's Masonic Lodge	53
Presbyterian Church	54	St. Madelin's Chapter	42
Preston, Mrs. Lester (Cora)	44	St. Mark's Episcopal Church ...	58
Prevost, Mrs. Frances Caldwell ..	75	St. Mary's Chapter	42
Stephen	68,75	St. Mary's Guild	14
Price, Miss	41	St. Paul's Episcopal Church	57
Miss Susie	48	St. Philips Church	2,21
Pridgen, R. S.	49	St. Philips Parish	1
"Prince of Parthia"	32	Sall, Edward	5
Privette, Josef	38	Sampson, John	1,6
Prohibition	60	Mrs. Mary	31
Pulliam, Stone C.	68	Mary	71
Purviance, Will	5	Sapp, Winfield	68
Quince, J.	6	Saumenig, Rev. H. Field	63
Parker	71	Savage, Henry R.	68
Ramsey, John	71	Schloss, Prof. S. A.	26
Randall, Mrs. D. (Mabel)	44,68	Schofield, General	9
Rankin, Mrs. Kate Harlow	74	School, Charity	41,54
Robert	36,71,74	Day	43
William H.	74	Sunday	13,54
Ravenscroft, Rt. Rev. John Stark	55	Schwartz, Miss	36
Read, George J.	26	Scott, Andrew	71
Rector's Reserve Chapter	42	David H.	68
Reston, Thomas C.	71	David H., Jr.	74
Revolution, American	3,79	David H., Sr.	74
Rhodes & Underwood	14	Mrs. Isabel Smallbones ...	74
Richardson, James L.	35	Robert	71
William	71	Thomas G.	71
Rippy, Fred, III	68	Seaton, Samuel	71
Robertson, Mr.	37		
Wm. Frederick	68		
Wm. Gemmell	23,37(3), 38,78		

- Sellers, R. J. 49
 Settle, Mrs. Eliza Potter 14
 Thomas 15
 Shackelford, Mary 71
 Shadrach, Lawrence 68
 Shaw, Mrs. William 43
 Sister Cecelia 47(2),48
 Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd 47
 Skinner, Rev. 48
 Slingsby, Isabella 71
 John 7
 Sloan, Mrs. James 68
 Smith, Ann 71
 David 71
 D., Jr. 71
 Joe 36
 Mrs. Lamont 37
 Rev. Michael 52
 Sophia G. 71
 Smithville, N.C. 29,57
 Smith, William 68
 Willie 36
 Snyder, Eleanor 42
 Society for the Propagation of the
 Gospel 51-53
 Society Hall 8,41,56,57
 Spanish Attack (1748) 2
 Sparrow, Mrs. Gertrude S. 73
 L. Lansdale 73
 Robert K. 73
 Spencer, Mr. 37
 Spooner, Richard 48
 William 48
 Springs, John 5
 Springs, John S. 71
 Sprunt, Mrs. Alexander 38
 Mrs. J. Laurance 44
 Laurance G. 68
 Mrs. Laurance G. 44,68
 Spurlock, Mrs. H. (Daphne) 44
 H. N. 68
 Stent, Mr. 11
 Stone, B. 7
 Strange, Allan T. 68
 Mrs. Mary Taylor 74
 Robert 68
 Rev. 48
 Rt.Rev. Robert ... 49,59-61,
 66,78
 Robert, Jr. 74
 Robert, Sr. 74
 Strangers 4,6
 Strong, Ludlow P. 68
 Sturdevant, R. S. 32
 Sutherland, Mrs. Mary O. G. 74
 D. 7
 Wm. O. S., Jr. 74
 Wm. O. S., Sr. 74
 Swann, Frederick 71
 John 1,6,41
 Samuel 1(2),6
 Swift, Joseph G. 71
 Symmes, Andrew 75
 Andrew H. 75
 Arthur H. 75
 Courtland 75(2)
 Harrison M. 38
 Harrison M., Jr. 74
 Harrison M., Sr. 74
 Mrs. Jean Deck 75
 Mrs. Margaret L. 75(2)
 Mrs. Mary Harriss 74
 Michael Francis 75
 Taggart, Lt. J. C. 9
 Tarleton's Dragoons 3
 Taxes 1
 Taylor, Fannie G. (Mrs. Walker) . 21
 (2),43(2),44,68,74
 J. Allan 68,73
 Lola Martin 42
 Mrs. May French 73
 Robert F. 73
 Walker, Jr. 74
 Walker, III. 68,74
 Thams(?), C. L. 71
 Theobald, C. F. 68
 Thomas, George 18,19
 George G. 19,68
 Rev. Harold 48
 Mary C. (Mrs. George) .. 42
 Wm. George 68
 Thornton, Mrs. Frances 43
 Mrs. Frances T. 75
 Wm. Holladay, Jr. 75
 Wm. Holladay, Sr. 75
 Thorpe, Edwin 35,36
 Margaret Meares 78
 W. B. 68
 Wm. Bennett 78
 Tillinghast, Christopher 71
 Tolson, Rev. 48
 Toomer, H. 6
 John D. 71
 Toon, Bessie Brock 42
 Toot, Virginia 42
 Town Clock 26
 Townes, Rev. W. A. 49
 Wm. Armistead 68
 Tucker, Rt.Rev. Henry St. George 17
 Underwood, U. A. 14
 Upjohn, Hobart 13,14
 Usher, James 71
 Valentine, Brown & Co. 12
 Van Bokkelen, Adrian H. 10,68
 Vance, Mary 72

Vaughn, M. H.	21	Charles T.	68
Waddell, A. M.	68	Charles T., Jr.	75
Miss Elizabeth	36	Charles T., Sr.	75
John	72	Frank Lenox	14,79
Wakeley, George	3	John	72,79
John	3	Mrs. Margaret Gould ..	75
Walker, Carleton	72	Robert M., Jr.	68
J.	5	William A.	68
James	6,13	William Arthur	79
James M.	72	William Augustus	79
Lt. Col. John	79	Willis, Arthur Rexford ..	68
Magdalene M.	72	Wills, Rev. John	53
Marguerite	19	Willson, Prof. J. E.	26
Miss Maria	19	Wilmer, Rev. George	57
Mrs. Mary	79	Rev. Richard H.	57
Mary W.	79	Wilmington & Raleigh Railroad	30
Memorial Fund	19	Wilson, Carl	38
Mrs.	41	Wingate, Jesse	72
R. Francis, Jr.	73	William	72
Richard F.	73	Winslow, Edward	35,72
Mrs. Susan Perryclear ..	73	Woman's Auxiliary	22,42,58
Thomas D.	79	Women, Church	41-44
William	23,38	Women's Working Assn. ...	54,56,67
William L.	23,68	Wood, John C.	8
Walter, T. U.	8	Woodbury, Eugene B.	75
Ward, Clement Manley	75	Mrs. Jane Beery	75
Clem Morton	75	Louie E.	68
Mrs. Clyde Morton,	75	Louie E., Jr.	75
Edward	22	Mrs. Louie E., III	43
Edward L.	68	Woolcott, Mrs. Harry (Kate)	44
John H.	72	Woolerton, Harry	26
M.	7	Wootten, Edward	74
Waters, Joseph	1	Edward Y.	74
Watson, Rt. Rev. Alfred A. ..	9,10,45,	Property	19,20
58,59,66,79		Rev.	48
Mrs. A. A.	59	Mrs. Ruth James	74
Frances	42	World War I	14,62
Watters, J.	5	World War II	18,19
Joseph H.	79	Wright, Miss Ann Eliza	54
Weathersbee, Andrew Harriss ..	75	Charles J.	72
Mrs. R. (Dorothy) .	44	Eleanor G. (Mrs. T. H.) ..	23
Mrs. Dorothy H.	75	Prof. Frank	35
Ransey	75	J. Laurens	73
Wells, Mrs. James L., Jr. (Eliz.) ..	44	John Maffitt	73(2)
Welsh Tract	53	Joshua Grainger ...	54,68,72
West, F. Carley	37	Mrs. Josie Whittaker	73
Harry	36	Susan	72
West Point Military Academy ..	54	Mrs. Susan Bradley	54
Wheeler, Rev. W. H.	62	T.	6
Wilkins, John	29,72	Thomas	72
Wilkinson, W.	6	Thomas H.	8,46,48,68
William	72	Rt. Rev. Thomas H.	63,64
Willetts, Frederick	37,68	Thomas H., Jr.	21,65,68
Frederick, Jr.	68,75	Thomas H., H.	63,64,73
Mrs. F., Jr. (Helen) ..	44,65,68	William A.	68
Frederick, III	75	Wrightsville Sound	46
Mrs. Helen Messick	75	Yellow Fever Epidemic (1862) ..	58
Williams, Charles	65	Yopp, Charlie	36
		W. H.	68



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